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THE Country GUIDE

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THE *Country* GUIDE

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No Retreat On Fag Tax

THE September exchanges between the tobacco growers of Ontario and the minister of finance provide an interesting insight into an unusual farm marketing problem. The 1951 budget raised the tax on cigarettes; retail prices advanced; consumption dropped. The tobacco growers declare that it confronts them with a ruinous situation and besought the finance minister to cut the tax and save their market. But Mr. Abbott is sticking to his guns.

In the early '20's farmers living on what was then regarded as some of the poorest soil in Ontario discovered that they could grow flue-cured tobacco for cigarette manufacture advantageously. Within 25 years they have built up an industry which returns \$50 million annually to growers, and \$200 million to the federal treasury in taxes. Much of the impetus for this expansion came from a growers' organization which represents 99 per cent of the producers in the province.

Not only has this organization supervised the sale of tobacco, but it has taken an active and intelligent interest in its production. Tobacco growing in the flue-cured zone of Ontario has been established under its direction on a basis of scientific agriculture said to be the highest in the world for this crop.

Growers assert, therefore, that while their product was steadily increased in price from 20.57 cents in 1940 to 44.90 cents in 1950, the prosperity of this decade has not been dissipated but voluntarily plowed back into the business in anticipation of continued participation in a stable enterprise.

The old tax on cigarettes was \$6 per thousand in excise duty, and \$4 per thousand by way of excise tax. The April increase raised the tax \$1.50, making the new rate \$5.50 for an aggregate government levy of \$11.50 per thousand. Consumption was immediately affected, but how much is not quite clear. The quantity of cigarettes excised for May, June and July shows a drop of 10.83 per cent. Retailers in Toronto report a drop in sales of 17 per cent for the same period. These figures seem to refer to the "tailor-made" kind. It is well known that many consumers turned from them to the "roll-your-own" variety when the price jumped, so that the reduction shown by the above figures does not apply to the outlet for the grower.

Likewise, with habits so firmly grounded as cigarette smoking, every price increase can be expected to show an immediate drop in sales, reflecting the consumers' resentment, or well-intentioned efforts to economize. The smoker swears he will cut out fags altogether, or make every package go further. Intentions fade. Within a couple of months he is back on the old ration. The consumption figures suggest that such a tendency may be at work. June consumption was down 17.40 per cent; July 5.36 per cent.

The nub of the argument advanced by the growers is that cigarettes are not a commodity that can be indefinitely taxed on a rising scale. Demand is relatively inelastic, but at some point the smoker gives in. When that point is reached the treasury has defeated its



own purpose. A 17 per cent drop in consumption means 2,931 million fewer cigarettes sold than in the previous year. Even with a higher rate of taxation the government takes in \$7 million less than the year before. On the other hand a ten per cent drop in sales means 1,724 million fewer smokes, but the higher tax enables the government to increase its take by \$6 million. The growers' retort is that such an increase in tax revenue is offset by loss to the trade.

THE Ontario tobacco growers are very sensitive about the possible destruction of their domestic market by the invading American product. American cigarettes sell in the U.S. for less than half what Canadian fags sell for here. Smuggled American cigarettes can be sold in Canada for considerably less than the home product. The tobacco men imply that cigarette smugglers are even now doing a roaring business. They assert that the present inducement to smoke American blends is price, not taste. But they admit, taste is a fickle jade. If the American product becomes widely used, Canadians might grow to prefer them with ruinous consequences to the Canadian trade. The answer, in their view, is to sell Canadian smokes at a price which makes bootlegging a less attractive undertaking.

Like every other form of production, costs in tobacco growing and in cigarette manufacture have been rising, so that a cancellation of the April tax increase does not mean a return to the April retail price. Tobacco growers calculate that cigarettes should be retailed at 35 cents for a package of 20 to promote an adequate market for their product. In order to get the price down to this level they request that the government levy should be reduced from \$11.50 to \$7.50.

The finance minister was unmoved by their plea. He believes that in the long run there will be no substantial reduction in consumption. In view of the added taxes on more necessary goods he declared it unfair that cigarette taxes should be untouched. It looks as though the tobacco crowd will have to wait till the 1952 budget for action, with a strong chance of final disappointment.—P.M.A.

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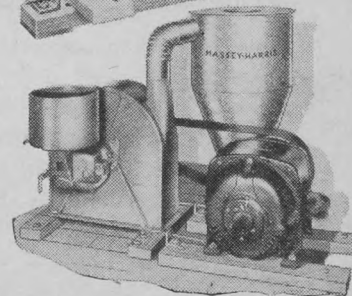
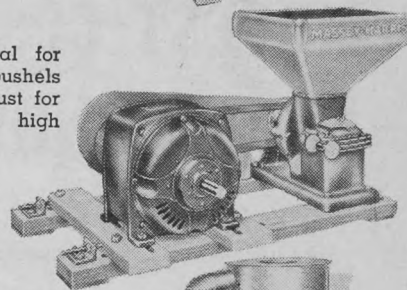
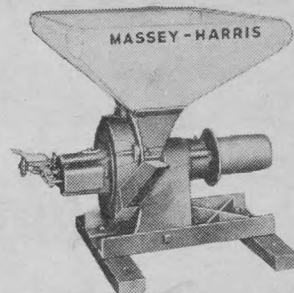
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THE last two years has seen a revolutionary change in the method of selling livestock in the public markets of western Canada. What nobody thought could happen has come to pass. So noiselessly and with so little fuss as hardly to have attracted notice. Auction marketing has captured the field in every public market except Winnipeg.

Thirty years ago Walter Crawford of Aberdeen-Angus fame came back from the first war impressed by the way in which cattle were sold in Great Britain. He tried to promote interest in auction marketing in western Canada. The big shots in the stockyards did not even do him the honor of arguing it out with him. He was politely ignored. Young fellow with big notions. H. P. Kennedy of the Edmonton stockyards is reported to have entertained the idea, but, if so, nothing came of it. As late as 1948 the idea seemed as dead as the proverbial dodo.

The traditional way of selling cattle in our public markets is for the producer to consign his stock to a firm of livestock commission agents, who sort out the day's receipts in their alleys at the stockyards and dicker privately with packers' buyers, or in the case of cattle for further feeding, with order buyers.

The dickering process is a highly private affair. The commission agent haggles with one buyer at a time. A toss of a coin decides which buyer gets the first chance to haggle. If the first buyer snaps up the lot, the others have to wait until the next "drag" is offered. Sometimes the same buyer may be lucky enough to win several tosses in a row, even though buyers representing other packers may be standing "with their tongues hanging out" for a chance to buy, and willing to pay a higher price than that for which the sale was concluded.

Over a period of time under the old system a buyer would break even: lucky one day, unlucky the next. The commission firms liked it. It fixed their importance in the scale of things. A cattle salesman was an exalted and well-paid figure who commanded respect on the yards. The trade



Within the last year the selling of cattle has been revolutionized on all western stockyards except Winnipeg

by P. M. ABEL

Farmers' trucks delivering cattle for sale by auction at the Saskatoon stockyards.

next pen if he could have Farmer Smith's three-year-olds at his price. Fine for Jones, but not so good for Smith who, of course, would never find out.

Most of the allegations against alley buying were probably unfounded, but the fact that the haggling was conducted in private engendered the belief that a farmer never knew how faithfully he was being served by his commission agent. He had to take it on trust. And in marketing matters the farmer's trust has been worn perilously thin.

IN Alberta in 1939 there began a succession of community livestock sales at which cattle from numerous owners were assembled at a local point and auctioned. The first one seems to have been held in 1939 by Don Ball at Mannville. It was such a success that he was persuaded by Charlie Franklin to shift his activities to the south of the province where the cattle were. The first community sale in the south is reported to have been held at Cardston, where 1,005 cattle were sold on the first day and 3,500 sheep on the second day.

The community auction sales multiplied rapidly. They had several advantages. For a change, farmers heard packers' buyers bidding against one another to raise prices above what they believed sale by private treaty in the stockyards would bring. Secondly, they saved freight on unfinished cattle which were usually sold for finishing in the locality where they originated. They saved producers the time required to take them to distant markets. They provided an outlet for a greater variety of offerings: everything found a buyer, dairy cattle, horses for slaughter, weaner pigs—everything.

A group of southern Alberta cattlemen which

included Harry Miner, Mack Higden, Rube Gilchrist, Walter Jenkins, Max Bradshaw, and John Smith of Cardston, formed a company for promoting community sales all over southern Alberta. They obtained selling and loading privileges at key points, hired two experienced livestock auctioneers, and promptly took over a large share of cattle trading from High River south and east. At the peak of the business 40 points were holding more or less regular community sales.

The ice cracked wide open with the sale of cattle from the Burns ranches in 1948. This company sent 6,000 cattle through the ring in one sale, and were so satisfied that they repeated in 1949 and 1950. The second and third Burns sales included cattle that never tasted grass on the Burns ranches, but were consigned by other beef men anxious to get in on a good thing.

Sale by private treaty in the stockyards was simply being by-passed. The cattle bought by the packers at the small community sales went direct to their killing floors. The commission men at the Calgary yards looked at their dwindling receipts and then blankly at each other. What to do? Fight the devil with fire! If growers wanted auction selling, auction selling they should have.

So they jointly hired auctioneers, for which the growers would pay at the rate of 25 cents for each cattle beast auctioned, and persuaded the stockyards company to build a heated ring for year-round use. Growers who wanted the new fangled auction system could have it. Those who were satisfied with sale by private treaty could escape the extra two-bit charge. Perhaps there were some who counted on this extra charge to put the damper on this nonsense.

THE first sale was held on July 17, 1950. It was an outstanding success. Two sales a week were billed, and then three. Soon the ring was in continuous use, and incapable of handling all the cattle offered for auction. A second ring had to be built for simultaneous operation. While it is still possible to sell by private treaty at the Calgary yards, few cattle are disposed of in that way. It looks as though the standard practice of two years ago is down and out in that city. (Please turn to page 61)

AUCTIONEERS AT THE STOCKYARDS

had never known anything else than this process of dickering which they distinguished with the elegant title "sale by private treaty." Custom dies hard. Perhaps they were afraid that if the system of marketing were altered it might affect them adversely.

Farmers, on the other hand, always had suspicions about these whispered undertones that preceded a sale. What unholy bargain was it that had to be arrived at in this way? There was the feeling that if buyer and salesman came to an impasse they would make some kind of a deal. The buyer would give a dime more for Farmer Jones' calves in the

THEY called the new gold strike the Catamount Strike and named the first camp Catamount, because an early prospector one bitter night had shot a big, starving panther that was following him in the woods.

They called Lawton "Luckless" Lawton, because three times he had staked likely looking claims near others which turned out to be bonanzas—and his surface showings, which promised so well, proved to be "blowouts." The vein had run out a few yards beneath the surface in each diggings and forced the young prospector to seek a job on the railroad to make a new grubstake. He wouldn't give up. He had joined the big rush early, coming from New York City where headquarters for several swiftly organized syndicates were buzzing with excitement over the reports brought back by an experienced engineer who had been sent up to investigate the showings. The girl that Jim Lawton loved was employed by one syndicate; that was one reason that they had not married and the principal reason why Jim took the train to the jumping-off place, 1,200 miles from Broadway, northwest, into the unbroken wilderness of Temiskaming.

"I'll make our fortune, Anne darling," he declared. And he added, "If I am lucky—and I am lucky, to have you."

You had to have luck in the Catamount country, sheer luck. Skill and science, a knowledge of geology didn't help too much, for the geology of this wilderness is different from any other explored gold area on earth. Experts who had come from all points of the compass, from developed gold fields, were being fooled by the vagaries of the strange rock beneath the overburden of forest mold and moss in the dark evergreen woods and the yeasty morasses of treacherous muskeg. Nature had played prodigious tricks here, aeons ago, first boiling up volcanoes, then letting them die down. They had literally made rock and plastered pure gold into it in veins and streaks. The hard rock was called by the prospectors, "bull quartz," it was so tough.

After the volcanoes had come mountains, then glaciers that sliced the tops off and ground them down and carried them far south, leaving a flat country with odd upthrusts of worn, twisted rock hillocks that were called "domes." Some of these domes contained rich deposits of gold, some did not.

Men had to learn, literally, the hard way about the stuff, and some of the richest strikes were made by accident.

Jim Lawton's last luckless diggings had been close to a fabulous strike, called the Good Fortune Mine. Samples from the Good Fortune were so rich that the discoverer had been able to carry off a small fortune in his knapsack; yet Jim's claim proved a flop. He managed, however, to sell his stakings to the Good Fortune people for enough to keep him going, just another grubstake. He went prospecting again. He wandered into the Catamount Emporium, a huge general store, to buy some grub and new tools, heavier clothing and tobacco. Within a very few weeks summer would end and the cold would come, with snow starting to fall in October and continuing without let-up for days, for weeks, until six to ten feet of it lay on the ground.

There was a letter there for Jim. It was from Anne and he forgot about his purchases as he tore it open, his hands trembling.

Dear Jim:

Congratulations. I learned of your luck, by accident. One of the shareholders in the Good Fortune Mine wrote to my boss and told him how you had staked a claim in their territory and were sure to be one of the men to make a rich killing. Why didn't you write and tell me? I suppose you wanted to surprise me. Tell me all about it, Jim. The office is

Luckless Lawton wanted only one person for a partner, but Gregory De Mareno had other ideas, and Gregory was persistent

CATAMOUNT GOLD

A SERIAL IN TWO PARTS—PART I

by CLAY PERRY

all agog over it. In fact, some of the girls and boys, for a joke, hung a pair of old shoes on my chair back yesterday and when I opened my desk a shower of rice fell out all over my lap and the floor and—

"My God!" said Jim hoarsely aloud, and almost tore the letter in two as he gritted his teeth and stared blindly at the sheet, hardly being able to see the rest, and not wanting to finish it until he could be alone.

"What's the bad news, pardner?" inquired a sharp-eyed, bearded man who lounged against the counter nearby. "She run away with another feller?"

"None of your damn business," growled Jim, giving the speaker an up-and-down glare and noting that he was almost in rags. His hair, too, was uncut for months evidently, and he had a livid scar across his right cheek as if from a knife slash.

JIM stuffed the letter in his pocket, his face bleak, his eyes fixed on nothing as his thoughts swirled and boiled within him.

"Yer needn't git sore, pardner," offered the seedy-looking man. "I'm havin' tough luck myself. Lookin' fer a grubstake. And I know how to git one. How yer fixed? Need any extra dough?"

"I'll get along," snapped Jim, not eager to enter into conversation with this seeming panhandler.

"No offense, mister," the other persisted, then lowering his voice and looking slyly about, he added, "It's a cinch, though, if yer got the guts and patience to grab onto a claim when the privilege runs out. All legal, too. I know of a couple I'm watchin' till the right time. I seen yer lookin' a bit cut-up about somethin'—was only jokin' about the gal—and thought yer might want to take a whack at a sure-fire thing."

"Yeah? Well, those sure things, stranger, usually have a catch to 'em," Jim said. "You don't get something for nothing up in this country."

He walked down the littered middle aisle of the long, rough floor, where goods of all descriptions were piled up in disorder. They had lately been shipped in from the end of steel, 45 miles to the south, and toled or freighted in on winding waterways and across lakes, in plank boats with outboard motors. He began picking out the articles he needed, selecting them carefully and piling them in a heap on a goods box still unopened.

It was a sort of hit-or-miss self-service store, this place, where customers helped them-

selves from the disarray and counted up the cost from the price-tags and paid without any dickering. Or they might arrange with the proprietor, a grey-haired old sourdough who had been in the Yukon, for future payment or a trade of some promising property which could be guaranteed by the recorder. The gold claim recorder had an office in the front corner, opposite the tiny post office wicket. In his search for a pair of Jaeger gloves, Jim went back toward the front of the store and saw the nondescript who had accosted him, talking with the recorder. The man was known as "Pegleg" Jones, a veteran of the Boer War who had been rewarded for the loss of his limb by being given

some claims and appointed as the first recorder in the Catamount district. Pegleg had his weaknesses and one of them was a thirst. Liquor could not be sold here legally but bootlegging and blind pigging was rife in the camps. Jim saw the rag-a-tag thrust

a hand in his inside mackinaw pocket and, with a backward look, pull out something bulky and hand it to Pegleg, who immediately retired to a tiny closet and remained there for a moment, emerging with his tongue licking his lips and a satisfied look on

his red face. He began to talk in low tones to the stranger.

Jim thought he had the fellow's number now. He was either a professional bootlegger operating a pocket bar or else he was pulling Pegleg's leg for certain inside information about claims on which the staking privileges would run out the first of the next month, unless the original stakers had done the required development work on them. A recorder could tip off a friend, or for a price give information of value. It was not exactly illegal but it was not honest, either, and yet it was a custom that was condoned by the prospectors and miners. The law in this raw new camp was not enforced very closely, anyhow.

Jim resolved to avoid the shaggy fellow, but he did want to learn who he was and something about him. Jim was feeling discouraged and on the verge of being a bit desperate. The picture of his lovely Anne being subjected to a mockery, as if she was already married to him or about to be, burned in his mind and turned his heart cold at the same time. He didn't know how he would be able to write her and explain his failure.

IN selecting his stuff Jim bought some packages of tobacco and when he settled the score, began to dispose of smaller objects in his pockets. The tobacco he stuffed in a hip pocket atop Anne's letter, still not completely read. Later on, as he loaded up his packsack, he decided to put the tobacco in the sack and did so, replacing it with some bandanna handkerchiefs in his pocket.

His score mounted up to within a few dollars of his entire stake, received for sale of his luckless claim, but he estimated that he had enough grub to take him through for two months. He was going to head out to where the latest reported find had been made, in the dense woods near the stream that fed a small lake to the north, and now called Catamount Creek. It was new territory and not too many had staked there. Jim wanted to be alone.

He stopped at the recorder's office and spoke to Pegleg Jones.

"Seems to me," he said, "I half recognized that fellow who just went out. Didn't want to ask him his name, but—"

Pegleg was in a mellow mood and he grinned as he said, "He goes by the name of Mareano around here, but his real or other name is De Mareno, Gregory De Mareno. He's an old gold miner from the States. Jest a leetle on the hardpan right now, but he knows his stuff. You figgerin' on havin' a pardner?"

Jim shook his head.

"I'll travel alone," he said. "I'm going up the creek. Do me a favor; if any mail comes here for me send it up to the new Catamount Creek camp by one of the Indian boys who run stuff, will you?"

"Sure thing, Jim. And good luck to you. Say,



that Marean has got a bit of purty good likker if you need a snifter before you hit the trail. Tell him I told you."

Jim had to smile, but he thanked Pegleg, whose breath reeked of anything but "good likker," and shouldered his heavy pack.

Marean, alias De Mareno, was leaning against the corner of the store, taking the sun, when Jim came out. He had the attitude of a man who was going nowhere in particular but just waiting for something to turn up.

Or someone. Jim knew that Marean was a good man to avoid, now, but he was not to get away without a further word from the fellow.

"Headin' up the creek, eh?" he observed as Jim was passing. "I reckon that's the best chance. I hear they're strippin' open some rich surface showin's up there. Might make up my mind to hike up and see."

He moved uncertainly, as if he half-intended to walk along with Jim, but, lacking an invitation, he shrugged his



A big cat followed one of the early prospectors through the woods, and the incident gave the Catamount gold strike its name.

CLARENCE
TILLENIUS

shoulders, spat a brown stream into a crack in the sidewalk and returned to the store.

As he shook the dust of Catamount from his feet and got into the cool, green woods on the narrow but well-cut main trail, Jim braced himself and began to try to shake off his dour mood.

"Three times and out," he told himself. "Maybe my luck will change now. I'm going to forget about anybody else's strike and hit out for myself where nobody else has turned up the overburden for miles. I'll run on my own luck—if I have any. *I've got to hit it!* I can't let Anne down, now. My God, old shoes and rice! The poor kid! I'll write her a long letter after I make camp. I'll tell her—what'll I tell her?"

Head bent against his tump-line, he hoofed it along swiftly, thinking hard, and gradually the peace and quiet and cool freshness of the towering firs, the beauty of the slim, graceful white birches and the fragrance of jackpines cooking in the sun, soothed and calmed him. He was heavily laden with his grub, mostly bacon and beans and flour, and with short-handled tools, pick, shovel, sledge chisels, frying pan and a few other metal articles, a few pounds of dynamite and some caps and fuses. A Hudson's Bay axe at his belt would be his handiest tool and weapon.

A FEW miles up the main trail he came to the brand new branch, leading off westerly toward Catamount Creek. He took this for a mile or more, and hearing the sound of rushing rapids to his left, he struck right into the woods and pushed through to the bank of the stream. The trail he had last followed led due north to the recently established camp, consisting, he had been told, of one log cabin which was operated as a roadhouse, some lean-tos and some tents. It was about three miles by the map that he carried, to this camp, from where he emerged at the creek.

He found a spot where the sun came in, due to the widening of the stream at a big pool. Below this were the rapids, and there the water rushed between great pinkish white rocks on its way to the north, where it would eventually empty into James Bay, 700 miles away.

The rock was the right sort, bull quartz, and here was water and sun and dry moss-covered ground and plenty of evergreens for making his rude lean-to of boughs and bark and a bed for himself. And he would be alone. No, not quite alone. He had Anne's letters, several of them, and this last one to finish reading. It would bring Anne 1,200 miles up here to be with him—dear Anne.

He hastened to build a flat rock fireplace. It was supper time, but it would be light till after nine o'clock, these summer days of late September. He saw the pool surface broken by rising fish, feeding on insects, and he gave a glad exclamation. Fish would help mightily his larder and he knew how to catch these hungry great northern pike. His old canoe-boy, an Indian, had shown him the trick with a forked pole, no hook or line or spear.

A fire going and Jim reached into his hip pocket, pulled out the woollen gloves and dug for Anne's letter.

It was not there.

A cold chill went over him, as if he had lost the most precious thing in the world, and he began to turn all his pockets inside out, thinking he might have been mistaken or had thoughtlessly changed the pocket, but no letter was to be found.

Illustrated by Clarence Tilenius

"I must have dropped it at the store," he told himself. "Yes, when I pulled the tobacco sacks out. Why didn't I finish reading it, at any rate? Luckless Lawton! Foolish Lawton!"

He was talking aloud to himself now, cursing himself.

"Well, Pegleg would send it to me," he tried to believe. "Someone will pick it up and turn it in. But when?"

He terribly wanted to have it, now, to read what else Anne had to tell him, to learn how she had taken the premature tokens of marriage, to make

sure that she had taken the office joking not entirely as a joke, but gladly.

He thought of returning to Catamount to try to find the letter, but reflected that it might be a fruitless trip, for if the letter was picked up Pegleg might send it right on to the new camp. He did not wish to visit there right away, he wanted to do some lone and secret prospecting here in this remote, untouched area. He needed to get at it before the snow came. When the cold did come he would have to have a decent log cabin built, well chinked and with a stone fireplace of sorts, but he did not plan to build it until he had found a good showing somewhere and staked it; then he could build on his claim, as required by law.

He ate a hasty meal, using some crackers he had bought instead of taking time to make bannock bread, and rushed to throw up a temporary shelter before darkness came. For with sundown came a sudden chill, sometimes frost during the nights.

SOMETHING amazing happened this night, something that Jim had never seen, and it made him a seasoned sourdough, a northman. He was wakened from deep slumber, which had come sooner than he expected after his seven-hour hike with his load and the labor of making camp. His watch showed a few minutes before two. He was astonished that he could see the figures on the watch face, for there was no moon.

Heaving up out of his warm Hudson's Bay blankets, Jim pushed aside the canvas flap he had thrown over the lean-to face and looked out and up into a sky that was painted with bright, moving lights. Long, restless fingers reached clear across the zenith and at their edges were tints of all colors of the rainbow, but the greatest glow was golden.

It was the *aurora borealis*, putting on its first display of the later summer. There was frost in the air, and the stream smoked with fog in the sudden change of temperature. The northern lights, strange, beautiful, awesome manifestations of nature in the north, seemed to Jim, as he held his breath, watching, to be actually whispering in the heavens. He had heard men swear they had heard this soft, sibilant sound but had been unable to believe them. He believed

(Please turn to page 54)

POLLY AT THE FAIR

by KERRY WOOD

Illustrated by Robert Reck

It looked as if Willowdale Fair was going to be checked off as a rained-out failure, until Ray's sow Polly put on a sideshow of her own

THE sad-looking judges glanced briefly at Ray Younger's sow. Haskell, the chief judge, paused long enough to mention that Ray's pig looked like she was ready to farrow. Then they went over to the scrubbed Tamworths featured by Pinehill Piggery, owned by Dan Marks himself.

This was on the first afternoon of Willowdale's three-day Fair. Rain drummed steadily on the roof of the pig barn and had made a sodden mess of the fairgrounds. The expected crowds had stayed away in droves. Only Fair Board officials, exhibitors and agricultural judges were present, of necessity. Flash Carson, owner of the Happyland Carnival, tagged along behind Dan Marks, president of Willowdale's Fair. Flash kept demanding where were all the people at, huh?

"Shaddap!" growled the choleric Dan, then nodded at Younger and gruffly inquired: "How'r you, Ray?"

"Just fine," gloomily admitted Ray. "Where's Janice?"

"Hmfff!" the president snorted. "My fancy-faced daughter stayed home, like all the others who should be here right now. We had to cancel the grandstand show, drat it."

He and Ray leaned on the pen railings and stared morosely at the huge Yorkshire sow, called Polly.

"She's going to farrow," Dan prophesied. He knew pigs, having operated the prosperous Pinehill Piggery for 30 years.

"Yeah," agreed Ray.

Dan Marks glanced at the unhappy young man and demanded: "Janice still mad at you?"

"She sure is."

"She got any reason, this time?"

"Only that she doesn't like pigs."

"Huh? How's that, again?"

"Well, she said she grew up with pigs at your Pinehill Piggery and she's everlastingly sick of pigs, pigs, pigs. So she won't marry me while I got Polly. Also, she

wants to go in for pedigreed poultry, while I favor geese myself—Did you know they're making powder puffs out of down-covered goose skin, nowadays?"

"Hmfff!"

"S a fact! Besides, I've lined up three city restaurants for so many geese per year, plus 80 cents per pound for the feathers, plus the local and district markets for table birds at Christmas time. I'd also sell breeding stock. I got it all figured out."

"Do tell," marvelled Dan. "Ray, I wish you and

Janice would quit squabbling and get married."

"Well, it's on account of pigs. That, and Janice wanting chickens instead of geese. It's a silly sort of thing to fight about, but we can quarrel over anything."

"So I notice. Hmfff! Isn't Polly here your only pig?"

"Uh-huh. But Polly is the biggest pig in the district, so Janice won't marry me while I've got this sow."

"My own daughter, not liking pigs!" growled Dan. "If I had the nerve, I'd spank her." Then he shrewdly appraised Polly with his best pork-judging eye. "She didn't win any prize, eh? Just a grade Yorkshire. Tell you what, Ray: I'll give you \$75.00 for Polly, then you'll be completely out of pigs and Janice won't have any reason for fighting."



sort of pig, and she's useful for eating whatever I cook out there in my bachelor-quarters that I can't stomach myself. Besides, Janice can't have her own way all the time. I'm willing to let her keep chickens if she must, but she's got to let me keep geese. And Polly."

"You got a point there," Dan admitted, man to man.

FLASH CARSON tugged at the president's sleeve and wanted to know if there was no hope of getting any kind of crowd, huh? Dan

shushed the carnival man, mentioning again that Polly was due to farrow. Then Marks went across to the Pinehill Piggery exhibit, where Haskell and the other judges were handing out a goodly assortment of prize ribbons.

Ray Younger strolled to the pop-vending booth at the front of the barn and got himself a drink, staring out at the wetness that looked like it would continue its deluge for three long days—the total duration of the Willowdale Fair. He'd exhibited Polly to please Janice, because her father was the Fair's president. And now Janice didn't like pigs and wasn't even speaking to him, let alone planning to marry him and settle down to a happy life of tending geese. Or chickens. Or both.

"Looks like we're rained out, eh?" Inky Summers said, in his original way. "About the only event that may still be successful is the Fair dance. You going, Ray?"

"No. Some skunky fellow stole my girl."

"So I did," chuckled the unabashed Inky. "That Janice — what a looker! I certainly admire our taste in women, Ray. But right now I'm after copy. You know anything newsy I can write up for the Willowdale Press?"

"Well, my sow's going to farrow. Could you put that in your Blessed Event column?"

"Nope. But let's have a look at her, anyway."

They walked back to Polly's pen. In the short interval that Ray had been away, the sow had done a miraculous thing.

"Quite a mess of piglets," commented Inky, knowing nothing at all about sows and litters.

Ray Younger took one look, then leaped into the pen. For the first time (Please turn to page 47)

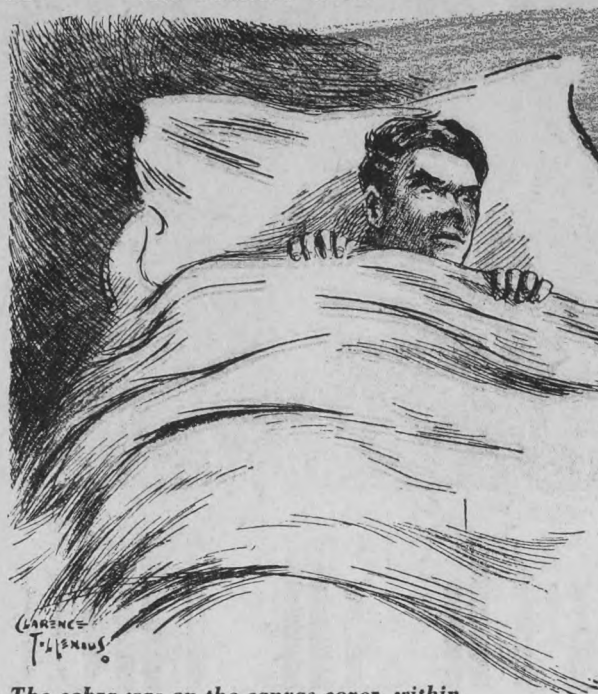
"Polly's not for sale," Ray said to Dan. "Besides Janice can't have her way all the time."



"She'll think up other reasons," Ray sounded glum. "S a matter of fact, she's tired of waiting. I just finished paying for the farm, so now I got to earn a stake to start in geese. Or poultry. This time, Janice gave me back my ring, and she's letting Inky Summers take her to the dance." Then he glanced at his sow and added: "Polly's worth more'n \$75.00, and you know it."

"Not to me, she isn't. I'm a Tamworth man."

"Well, she's not for sale, anyway. She's a friendly



The cobra was on the canvas cover, within striking distance of his face. For dragging seconds the two stared.

Eyes

IN THE CORNER

A weird tale of the experience of two British servicemen in Burma, where the jungle rains lay their dreary spell and bring out strange creatures

by PAUL ANNIXTER



FOR two days the rains had drummed incessantly on the roof of the old Burmese bungalow outside of Moung Tung. Flight Lieutenant Beaumont, R.A.F., and his gunner, Sergeant Blount, had come in from the jungle to the town-edge for cover on the first day of the rain. So had a score of

other airmen and half a regiment of picked British and Indian jungle troops. The Burma Road was a quag. Even war must stop below the equator when the monsoons strike.

The roof of the old bungalow was broad and saggy. Each day it became soggy from the down-pour. There were many rooms in the house—long ago it had been a missionary's dream of a native school—and the mold now thickened upon the walls, especially in those parts of the house unused by the two flyers. Other tenants had also come in for shelter during the rainy season, and these did not mind the damp and mold. Some were footless, others multipeded.

"Speaking of cobras," Beaumont was saying the second afternoon.

"Let's not, dear old top," grimaced Blount, with a hot weather shiver, symptom of tropic fever in anyone else.

Beaumont was always picking up native queer-nesses and points of view from servants and the Indian troops. He enjoyed them, making the best of them his own. He resumed in his cool, whimsical tone: "The natives tell me that the rains fill up their holes in the garden and they like to take up quarters in an old house like this. They're quite used to humans and not unfriendly, they say, if a chap has the right attitude toward them—"

"Cozy," muttered Blount. "So they're the people I keep hearing in the rafters."

"Cobras aren't noisy."

"I'm not meaning that they snore or crack nuts."

"They tell me we're not supposed to kill 'em—part of the native religion."

"If there's anything loose around here that isn't part of the native religion, it hasn't infiltrated on my observation."

Their talk was give and take in low tones. There was the sense about it that it could stop just as well as go on, and that there was nothing in the world to laugh at. These two had a way of merging into the job at hand, past words, like a single creature with a two-sided brain and four hands. The tension and vicissitude of countless days of pulling together in high sky against an utterly ruthless enemy had curiously coupled their two natures. Blount now picked up the thread: "Maybe they're not noisy, old man, but you don't have to put your ear to the wall to hear what I'm talking about, and I know a cockroach when I hear one, Birmingham or Burmese . . . I say, look up there."

The ceiling-cloth just now couldn't be said to behave naturally. It bellied slowly downward. A movement at first perceptible in the hollow became a faint line which their eyes followed from the center across to the edge of the room.

"Have you seen that before?" Beaumont inquired.

"Not to any monotonous degree," Blount grimaced.

"There's a lady-one in the 'green room' now, I noticed."

"One what?"

"Cobra—"

"And just where is this location?" Blount asked.

"That brick-floored room where the two water jars stand. It's turned green since the rains started," said Beaumont.

"I thought somebody was fixing to grow mushrooms in that little nook," Blount murmured. "What's a she-cobra doing in there?"

"Starting housekeeping in one of the *ollas*. I watched her half an hour this morning, but she didn't come out."

"I might go in and sing to her," Blount suggested. They tiptoed into the neglected room where light

and smell were evil. "She was in that far jar in the corner when I left," Beaumont whispered.

THEY spread out a leather coat upon the cozy bricks and sat down to watch and listen. The rain drummed and dripped. The mustiness of the old house breathed up like a sickness. The two men fixed themselves for silence, easily as Hindu holy men, and fell away into it, eyes open, thinking of England, each in his own way.

The rains had infected even their hard grain with homesickness. Beaumont's dark secret was that he was only 24, with name, fame and decorations still to be won. He was easy, quiet, a finished pilot and a handler of men, situations and of himself. Blount was eight years older, probably the more courageous of the two, because he was highly nervous and imaginative to start with, and did not take naturally to the air. Something different, somehow, about both of them. Flyers get something special, up off the ground.

They had been watching for many minutes when, instead of empty space, the head of a cobra was before their eyes. It hadn't appeared exactly, it materialized—the length of a man's hand above the rim of the water jar. The single eye which they could see showed

awareness without surprise or anger or fear. The hood was not fully dilated; the sense the men drew was that of haughty disdain. They did not see the movement, but the head was turned more directly to them a moment later, the hood flared a little extra. The underside now had a curiously froggy look, though the innocence of a frog was lacking.

Both Beaumont and Blount felt the inclination to fall into a reverie, as they sat in the gloom watching. Each sensed the extraordinary ease with which time was passing. They may have sat there for an hour before there was a patter of nailed pads outside, and a scratching at the door.

"Lord, don't let Makin's in," said Blount, his hand reaching up to hold the knob. "I say, look at her blaze now!"

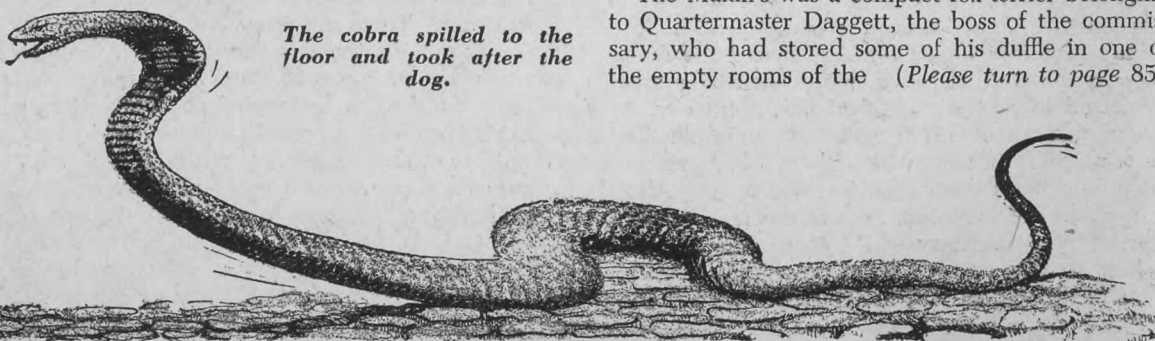
The cobra was red-eyed, in fuller expression of rage.

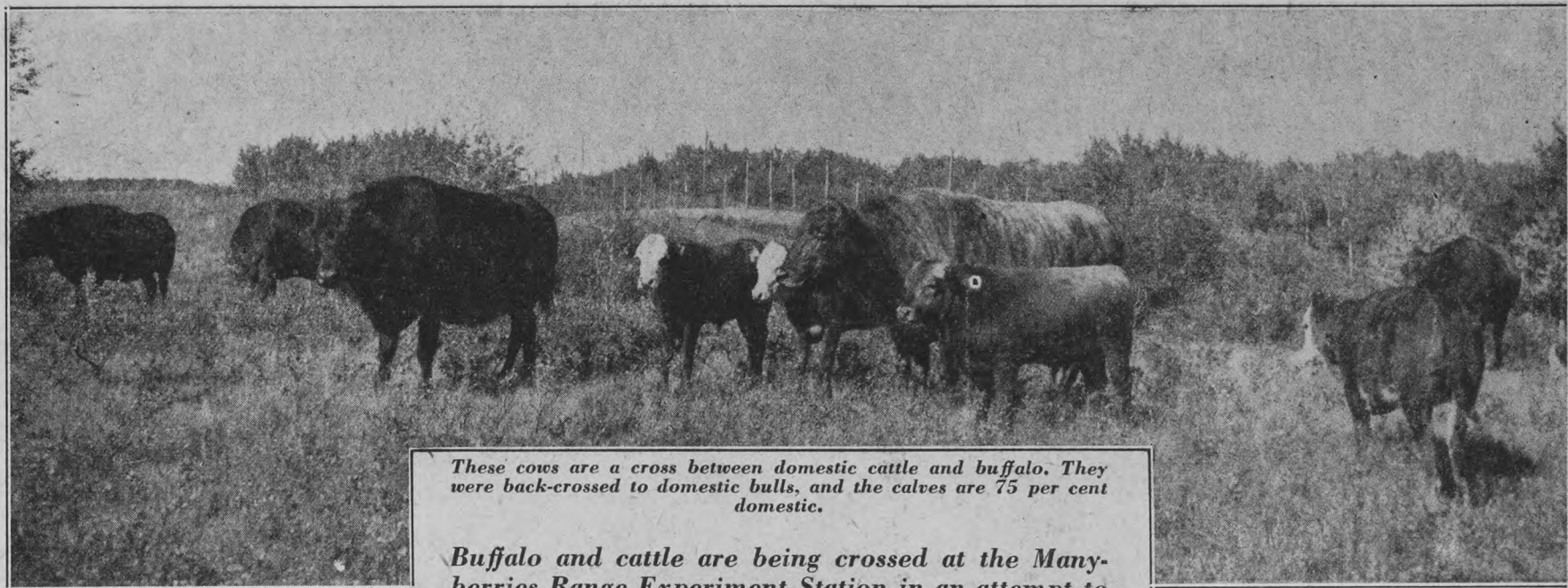
The Makin's was a compact fox-terrier belonging to Quartermaster Daggett, the boss of the commissary, who had stored some of his duffle in one of the empty rooms of the (Please turn to page 85)



Illustrated by Clarence Tillenius

The cobra spilled to the floor and took after the dog.





These cows are a cross between domestic cattle and buffalo. They were back-crossed to domestic bulls, and the calves are 75 per cent domestic.

Buffalo and cattle are being crossed at the Manyberries Range Experiment Station in an attempt to develop a hardy breed of cattalo

THE vast herds of buffalo that once dotted these plains have become a part of the intense drama of prairie history. The herds dwindled to a thin shadow of their earlier might, and the sound of a buffalo herd gave way to the creak of a Red River wagon or the sharp crack of a whip over the backs of homesteaders' oxen and mules. Buffalo wallows that had overgrown with grass were torn up and planted to wheat. Sodded buffalo trails and bleached bones continued as a nostalgic reminder of the life that preceded the farmer's plow and the school boy's lunch pail.

A great, rough limestone, well known to the writer, rests in a pasture in central Saskatchewan, still showing clearly today signs of buffalo attentions rendered a century ago. The stone is flat, four feet thick and ten feet square, dropped on a knoll by an indifferent glacier. A hundred generations of buffalo have rubbed their mud-caked haunches on the relieving roughness of the boulder and polished its perimeter to a glassy brightness.

The buffalo passed, but the shiny stone persisted to become a "castle" on which the children of early settlers fought to be "king" all oblivious of the generations before that had utilized the stone for quite a different purpose.

If breeding work that has been going on in Canada for well over half a century finally bears fruit, it is possible that descendants of the early settlers will see descendants of the earlier buffalo seeking comfort from that persistent hill of stone. The animal may look different, but the blood of the buffalo will run in its veins.

THE buffalo has certain characteristics that would be of value in domestic breeds of cattle. Expert geneticists have been attempting to develop a new breed through the crossing of domestic cattle and buffalo, that would retain some of the hardiness of the buffalo while, at the same time, retaining the body conformation and meat qualities of domestic breeds.

Untutored development through aeons of time taught the buffalo to

live with the climate instead of fighting against it. A cruel northwest wind cuts through the inadequate hair and hide of domestic cattle, but makes little impress on the heavy hide and the thick, curly hair of the native buffalo. Flies, which drive the fat Shorthorn into a frenzy of action are met with contemptuous indifference by the buffalo.

Cattle drifting aimlessly in front of a lashing blizzard meet buffalo moving toward it. The cattle move with the storm until they pile up in fence corner or gully, and perish helplessly. Not so the buffalo. The northern wilds have yet to release a storm that this hardy fellow considers so vicious that he will turn his back to it. This characteristic persists in cattle-buffalo crosses and lends substance to the hope that storm claimed herds may some day no longer be a periodic source of loss to ranchers on the range lands of western Canada and the United States.

Crossing cattle and buffalo is not a new idea. The earliest report of hybridization is given in Peter Kalm's "Travels in North America," in which he states that "the calves of wild cows and oxen were to be met with in Carolina and other provinces south of Pennsylvania." This report was made in 1750. Another author, Gallatin, is quoted as saying "the mixed breed was quite common in 1784 in some of the northern counties of Virginia, and the cows, the issue of the mixture, propagated like all others."

Even if these early reports are true, it was much later before any serious attempt to develop a new breed that would incorporate the desirable characteristics of the buffalo and of known breeds was undertaken. In relatively recent time experiments

in crossing have been made by such scattered individuals as Col. C. Goodnight, Goodnight, Texas; Major S. I. Bedsen, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Col. C. J. (Buffalo) Jones, Garden City, Kansas; J. E. Dooley, Salt Lake City, Utah; J. Philip, Fort Pierre, South Dakota; and M. M. Boyd, Bobcaygeon, Ontario.

THE last named—Mr. Boyd—laid the foundation for the herd that now shows the greatest promise of success. He started crossing in 1894 and by 1916 had built up a good herd of hybrids, some of them fertile. It became necessary for his herd to be dispersed and the experimental farm system of the Dominion Department of Agriculture bought 16 of his hybrid cows and four hybrid bulls. The Department felt that the work was sufficiently important and promising that they decided to use public funds to further it.

These animals were moved to the experimental farm at Scott, Saskatchewan. The herd has been moved twice since, first to Buffalo Park, Wainwright, Alberta, and recently to the Range Experiment Station, Manyberries, Alberta.

Progress has been extremely slow. The road that leads to a new and better cattalo breed has been plagued with blind alleys and pitfalls.

The first body blow was the fact that all of Mr. Boyd's work was wiped out at a stroke and all work had to be begun afresh, due to the fact that none of the hybrids purchased from Boyd ever reproduced. Just why this should have been so is not too clear. It is recognized that sterility is a great problem in cattle-buffalo crosses, but some of these animals had previously been proven fertile. It is conjectured that the change in environment may have been a contributing factor. The experiment had to be started again.

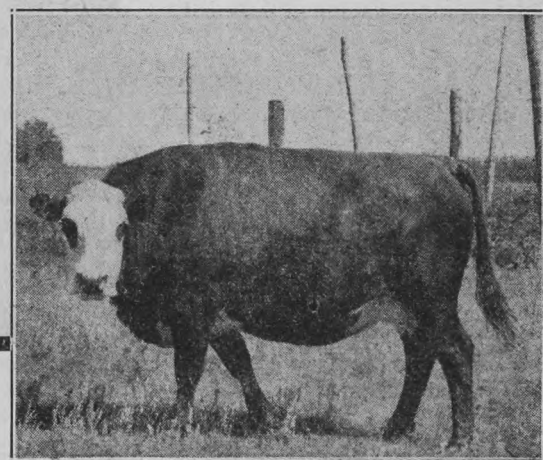
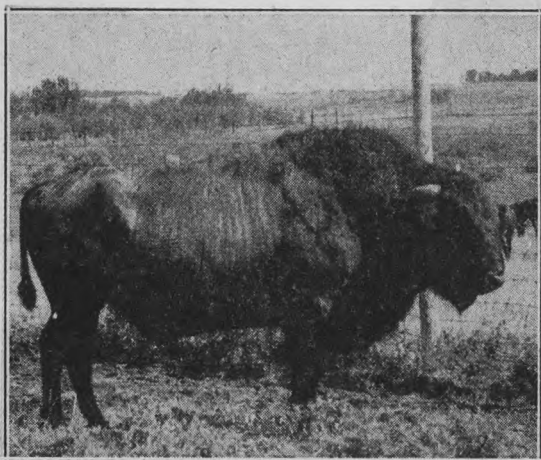
The fact that sterility is a problem when two species are crossed should be familiar to early settlers in the West. The classic example is the mule—progeny of a cross between a mare and a jackass. Fer-

(Please turn to page 45)

Cold Climate Critters

by RALPH HEDLIN

The fellow on the left looks like a buffalo, but he is half Shorthorn—and the cow on the right looks like a Hereford, but is one-quarter buffalo.



PIONEER PREACHER

PERHAPS no other Canadian was so well fitted, unconsciously, in youth for his life's work as George M. McDougall, erector of the first building outside the Hudson's Bay Company fort palisades at Edmonton in 1871.

Born of Scottish parents in 1821 at Kingston, Ontario, then a naval depot where his father was a sailor, young George was the mainstay of the family after the sailor moved his wife and children to virgin land north of Georgian Bay. The country was then filled with wild animals, thick forests and semi-savage Indians, and when just a boy George cleared the land, chopped trees, trapped fur-bearing animals and hunted for food. His companions were native boys of his own age from whom he learned to handle snowshoes and canoe expertly. The Ojibways called him "little Buck" after he won a race over their fleetest runner. Years later George taught his own sons that the surest way to win the respect of Indians was to equal, if not excel them, at their games and hunting.

He had so little schooling that at the age of 17 when he received his discharge from Her Majesty's Regiment of Royal Foresters he could neither read nor write and an X marked his signature. He was then a slim boy of five feet 6½ inches with black hair and grey eyes and a slightly upturned nose that gave him a roguish look. After his discharge George was hungry for an education and attended night school and church meetings in the nearest town, meantime going into the woodcutting business.

At 19 he was conducting public prayer meetings. About that time he met Elizabeth Chantler, a tall, dignified English girl, and they were married two years later. Almost immediately George, loading all their worldly goods onto a hand-sled, set out for Owen Sound—a village of three huts—to make his fortune, and as soon as he had built a log cabin he returned for Elizabeth. Now began the pattern that was to guide him all through life, for no sooner would he establish his family in one spot than he was lured into new country, and seeing there the need for preachers and teachers he would build another home. At Owen Sound George and his business-partner built the first vessel—their second craft carried the first outgoing cargo from that point to Toronto. Here, too, were born John, David and another son who died young.

At Owen Sound George became a licensed preacher, for his business took him deep into the forests where he was often asked to advise the people, to read to them from the Bible, and to perform such acts as burials and baptisms. By 1848 he knew that his life's work lay in the mission field, and he decided to go to college. The children were left with friends and the young couple started out for Toronto. However, teachers were so scarce and his progress was so rapid that he had not completed a term at college when he was appointed teacher and superintendent of a boys' industrial school at Alderville. Then on the strength of his zeal he was accepted into the ministry on probation despite his lack of formal education.

IN 1851 George was sent to explore the northern areas of Lakes Huron and Superior for a suitable site for a Protestant Mission and in his diary dated July 23, 1851, he writes—"... stood on the shores of the vast Superior and I have now passed the bounds of civilization. All ahead is both a natural and moral wilderness..." A week later appears the notation—"Have met the Indians in council at Garden River and agreed to become their missionary."

The great surprise came nine years later when he was appointed Chairman of Missions in the North and sent to Norway House, founded just 20 years before by the Reverend James Evans, inventor of the Cree syllabic language.

The long journey from the East to the northern tip of Lake Winnipeg was made by the parents, the

sum." Further on in this same letter to his superiors in the East, he gives detailed reports of the costs of travel, even advising newcomers where to make purchases along the route.

Norway House was the most important interior Hudson's Bay Company post for many years, and great fleets of inland transport reached here each summer—brigades from Port Nelson, the McKenzie River, the Athabasca, the Saskatchewan, the Red and the Assiniboine. The smoke of the campfires dotted the shoreline while trappers and traders and boatmen awaited the transfer of trade goods in exchange for great fur cargoes. Gay and festive as the occasion always appeared, nevertheless it was a time of great concern and responsibility for the missionary, for rum was free-flowing and the spirit of carnival presented many temptations to men who must spend long months in solitude. George's territory was vast—reaching almost from Hudson Bay across the northern part of the continent to the foothills of the Rockies.

The first winter George and his son John travelled by dog team through the north country to visit the people and build schools and churches, and in the spring crossed Lake Winnipeg to meet the people at the village where the Saskatchewan River drops 60 feet in less than four miles at Grand Rapids. They begged George to remain with them—craving the advantages of secular and religious teaching, and agricultural instruction, for when not on the hunt the Indians were grateful for the security mission life offered.

NOW that he had glimpsed the enormity and promise of the west country George McDougall could not rest at well-organized Norway House. In one letter he wrote while travelling over the prairie—"Every mile we came is abundantly fit for settlement, and the day will soon come when it will be taken up and developed." He could see this beyond the "vast circle of leather wigwams in the valleys," and the "plains around the forts dotted with buffalo-skin tents, vivid with biographical pictures and scalp-locks dangling outside as evidence of the prowess of the owners."

He built a cabin on the banks of the Saskatchewan River in what is now Alberta. The provinces had not yet come into existence and the heading of his letters read "Blackfeet Country." The

new mission was named Victoria—later Pakan in honor of a famous Cree chief—and Elizabeth won the distinction of being the first white woman in Alberta. Her grandchild—John's daughter, was the first white child born there.

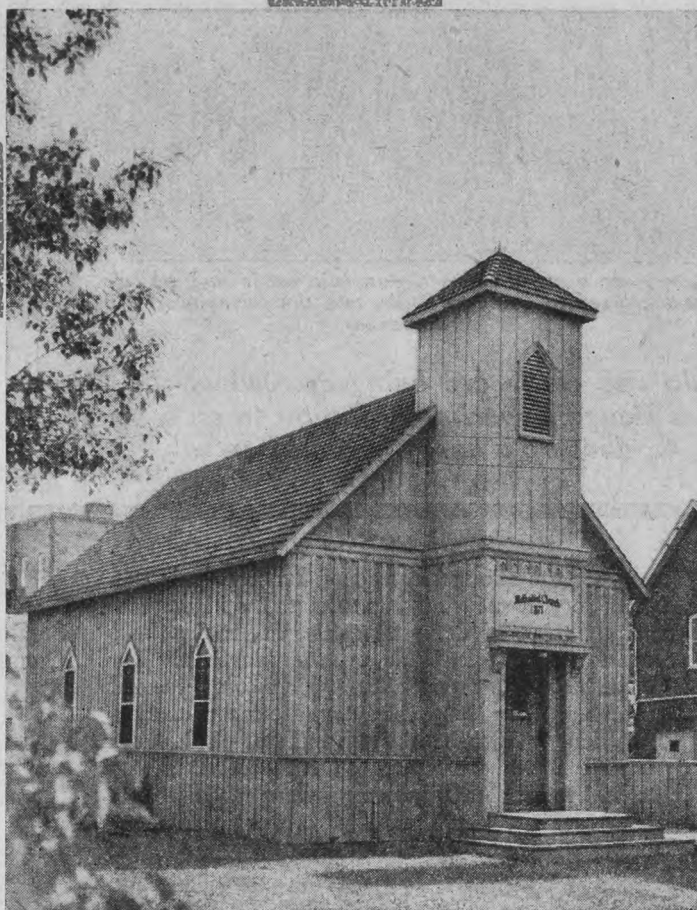
Barely was the cabin completed when George was off journeying westward to meet the natives living in the mountains. The Indians were overjoyed by the visit and on one occasion when three young boys saw the guide shaking into a pan the last of his flour, they rushed away to tell the tribe of the snow-white earth used by the missionary. Later George was to

write—"For years pemmican has been the staple dish on our table.

My wife says it is better not to think of bread while we cannot have it." And another time he reported—"offer a man gold for flour in Saskatchewan and he would laugh at you. Sixty dollars per barrel has been offered and refused."

It seems inconceivable today that less than 100 years ago men and women, lacking grain and vegetables, lived for months solely on meat, and workers at the trading posts were each allotted two pounds of pemmican or eight pounds of fresh meat per day!

The establishment and maintenance of a mission entailed a tremendous amount of labor for George and his family. In addition to preaching and teaching he must be all things to the Indians—doctor, judge, advisor and the leader in all building projects, no easy task 1,000 miles from a hardware store and sawmill. There was the hunt for food, and during the winter great (Please turn to page 33)



The McDougall church at Edmonton.

Rev. George M. McDougall's life work on the frontier paralleled that of Father La-combe. Between them they did much to prevent unrest among the Indian tribes during the Riel rebellion

by NAN SHIPLEY

son John, now 17, and two daughters, the younger children remained in the East for their schooling.

Many different means of transportation were employed. There was the train to Collingwood—a sternwheeler from there to Milwaukee—train again to La Crosse—a Mississippi steamboat to St. Paul—a stagecoach to Georgetown where they hired a river-barge and set up housekeeping in a tent on deck. Eight days later they reached the junction of the Red and the Assiniboine rivers where the Hudson's Bay Company factor took the parents and the girls into the shelter of the Fort. John had to remain outdoors overnight to guard the family possessions and help load the York boat that was to carry them over Lake Winnipeg more than 400 miles to Norway House.

All during this long trip George noted the fertility of the new country—"the day is not far distant when the limitless prairies which environ the banks of the Assiniboine will rank amongst the finest wheat-growing countries of British North America... the best of land can be obtained at a nominal

TEN DAYS in a Badger Hole

by Margaret Arnett MacLeod

This story, Ten Days in a Badger Hole, won a second award in the 1950-51 literary competition conducted by the Toronto Women's Canadian Club. The subject of the writing contest was "a children's story with a Canadian background." It was open to all non-professional writers in Canada. The story is based on actual fact. References to the incident are to be found in Ernest Seton Thompson's Life Histories of Northern Animals, Vol. II (New York, 1909) and in Sketch of Both Sides of Manitoba by Jeff Gee (Nelsonville, 1881) and in the local press giving Peter Fidler's account at the time, and the child's evidence to his parents. Margaret Arnett MacLeod of Winnipeg, who has made a place for herself in historical research, also had the account from Archbishop Matheson, who was preaching in the district at the time the boy was lost.

When Billy came to the hole Father Badger had gone in.

THIS is the true story of little Billy Service who got lost on the Manitoba prairies 80 years ago.

Billy was about four and small for his age. His home was near the Red River where the few white people in the country lived. Everywhere else it was flat, empty prairie; no trees, no roads, no fences, no buildings, no one living there; in summer, no sound but the cries of the birds, the croaking of the frogs, the soft wind in the willows.

Billy had no playmates but when spring came he had a wonderful playground: the prairie that stretched from his home as far as he could see. There, he knew the frogs and wild ducks and partridges and all the smaller prairie creatures. He could lie still in the grass and watch the busy field mice, and he would laugh aloud when the gophers chased each other and then popped into the ground.

And the prairie was bright with flowers for Billy to gather. One sunny June morning he set off to pick some for his mother and she said as usual, "Now don't go far." But he found so many new flowers that he went farther than he realized. There were nodding bluebells and pretty pink roses, and still on ahead, some early tiger lilies. He also found ripe strawberries and sat down to eat them.

Then he decided to go home, but to his surprise he couldn't see his house. All he could see was prairie and sky. But he began walking again thinking his house would soon appear.

Presently he came to a large pile of earth. He walked around it, and there sat a strange animal beside a big hole. It was a badger, a father badger. His fur was the color of grass in winter. He had short paws, short ears and nose, and black and white patches on his face. On seeing Billy his fur bristled and he growled. Badgers don't like people, and Father Badger was guarding his two babies and their mother down in the hole. So Billy walked on still trying to find his home.

Suddenly the sky darkened and it began to rain. Billy turned and went back. When he came to the big hole Father Badger had gone in.

Now this particular badger family had a much larger and finer home than most badgers have. It had been made by a mother wolf for her babies until they grew up and went away. And when the mother badger moved in she lined the nest at the bottom of the hole with fresh, soft grass so it would be comfortable for her family.

Of course Billy didn't know this; he hadn't even heard of a badger. But it was raining so he ran to the only shelter in sight, the badger hole. It was a slanting hole so he edged in backwards until he was lying on his stomach with his head underground but sheltered in the wide mouth of the hole.

He was now warm and dry but much surprised to find himself with the badger family. They too were surprised and Billy wasn't welcome. Father and Mother Badger scratched him and tore his clothes. But Billy didn't want to go out in the rain so every time they scratched he slapped back until they didn't bother him quite so much.

When the rain stopped Billy climbed out and looked for more strawberries. He was hungry. And then—up came the badger cubs to play: two lively balls of fur. They tumbled over each other, they knocked each other down, and it was such fun that Billy drew nearer and nearer and then joined in their play. At last he had found playmates.

Father and Mother Badger were away looking for food and when they came back they didn't seem to mind Billy playing with the cubs.

It was now after sundown and getting cooler. Billy shivered. It was also growing dark, and he felt lonely. So when his playmates followed their parents into the hole Billy went too. Mother Badger was a little kinder. Billy was now her children's friend.

He wasn't scratched so much and Mother Badger gave him some food: gophers and mice she had killed. Billy didn't like the food, but the cubs ate so he ate too.

Billy lived for more than ten days with the badgers. Mother Badger sometimes gave him food but it wasn't much for a boy. So he ate strawberries and roots of plants, and when very hungry, he ate a little mud.

However, Billy was happy. He now had playmates. Also, even though his hands and face got very black he didn't have to wash. He never was sent to bed, and he could sleep late in the morning as the badgers did. But best of all, they let Billy have the big hole as his own. They used the back door, a smaller tunnel that also led into their den.

ON sunshiny days the parents curled up outside while Billy and the cubs played. But after sunset they all played. Their favorite game was King of the Castle, everyone scrambling to get on top of a big stone, and when one got up the others pulled him down. They played for hours, sometimes by moonlight.

Then one day as Billy was resting in his hole something frightening happened. Looking out he saw a man—a man with a gun. Billy knew about guns and crouching farther down, he whimpered a little.

The man came nearer, pointing his gun at the hole. He had heard Billy's

whimper but he thought it was a badger. Billy's heart beat fast. Closer, closer, came the man. Bending down he looked into the hole. Billy tried to keep still but his hand moved.

With a cry the man dropped his gun. He had seen Billy's hand and his eyes large with fright. Billy felt better now the gun was gone but he was still scared. The man reached his hand into the hole saying, "Poor little boy, poor little boy."

Billy didn't know that ever since he had left home his father and others had been searching for him. His parents were very sad. They feared they would not see him again. They never imagined that animals on the prairie might help to look after him.

The man beside the hole was Peter Fidler who spoke broken English, and he went on coaxingly, "Poor little boy, come out. I not hurt you. Your fadder, your mudder look all over for you. Come out, I take you to your mudder."

As he spoke Peter was reaching farther and farther in. "You hungry, little boy. I give you plenty bread, plenty soup, I take you to your mudder." Then catching Billy's hand, he gently lifted him out.

Billy had the promised bread and soup and Peter took him home to his overjoyed parents. He had cried at leaving his prairie playmates, but he was too young to know that they had saved his life, or that he was the only boy in the world who ever spent ten days in a badger hole.

On seeing the boy, the badger's fur bristled and he growled.

Illustrated by
Clarence Tilenius



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hauls everything
practically!**



INTERNATIONAL L-162 with 12-foot grain body, 154-inch wheelbase, GVW 16,000 lbs. Has a bumper crop of special features to help you handle a wide variety of loads. Specifications subject to change without notice.

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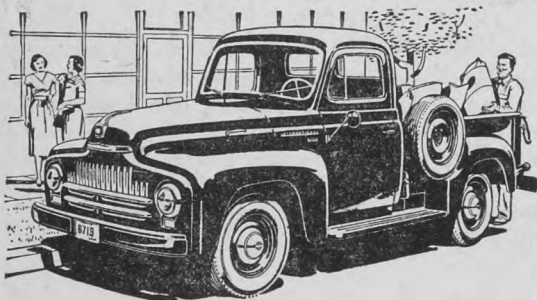
These Internationals give you a practical combination of stamina and comfort—because you get traditional International Truck toughness in every part *plus* the COMFO-VISION CAB, "roomiest on the road." That adds up to longer truck life, lower operating and maintenance costs . . . along with such driver benefits as more roominess, greater visibility, more positive steering control, greater maneuverability.

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MODEL L-160, 154-inch wheelbase, 12-ft. stake body, 14,000 pounds GVW, featuring: Comfo-Vision Cab, "roomiest on the road," Silver Diamond 240 engine (108 max. brake h.p. at 3,600 r.p.m.); 4-speed Synchromatic transmission; 37° turning angle, roller-mounted steering gear; 294.4 sq. in. effective brake lining area. Specifications subject to change without notice.



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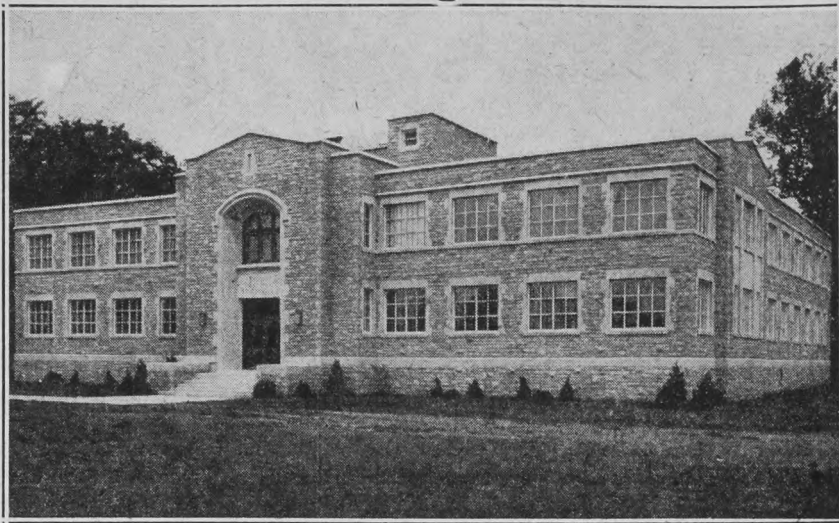
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News of Agriculture



[Can. Dept. of Agr. Photo.]

Another Science Service regional laboratory—this one at the University of Western Ontario, London, Ont. Science Service is a principal division of the Canada Department of Agriculture.

National Farm Radio Forum

CANADA'S National Farm Radio Forum, organized ten years ago, is sponsored jointly by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, the Canadian Association for Adult Education, and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Last winter, nearly 1,500 discussion groups across Canada, involving approximately 30,000 people, met during the weekly Farm Forum broadcasts during the winter months.

It is interesting to note that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has set aside \$16,000 for a special study of Canada's Farm Radio Forum, "as a means of mass communication." The combination of radio, printed study material, small discussion groups and reports of these groups summarized and reported back to the other groups, has thus gained recognition internationally as a method of educational and democratic development which could have useful application in other countries.

The 1951 National Farm Radio Forum season will open this year on October 29, when a program of 20 broadcasts, concluding March 24, will cover such general subjects as co-operatives, community living, farm policy, marketing and international relations. Each of these will be the subject of three broadcasts, followed by a fourth in each group summarizing the views of individual forums.

The first broadcast on October 29 will deal specifically with the question, "Are Co-ops Efficient?"

Britain Buys Less

IN 1950, Britain cut down her imports of wheat by 32 per cent. The Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, reports that Canada's share of the trade drop was 34 per cent, and Australia's share was 62 per cent. Purchases from the United States increased by one-third, and imports from France were nearly three times as much as in 1949.

Britain increased her imports of barley by 74 per cent, principally from the U.S.S.R., Iraq, Australia and Morocco. Canada supplied none. Imports of oats were increased by 38 per cent, principally from Russia, which supplied nearly 90 per cent of the total.

Flour imports were reduced by 25 per cent, including a decline of 12 per

cent from Canada, and a 67 per cent decrease from Australia.

Canada has supplied no frozen beef or boned or boneless beef since 1948, although imports of the latter were increased from Poland. Eggs in shell decreased by 18 per cent. There were no imports from Canada, but 11 per cent more from Denmark and 55 per cent more from Poland.

New Zealand furnished more than half of Britain's cheese imports although the quantity was less than in 1949. Canada's share was 25 per cent larger last year than the year before.

Britain increased her imports of apples by 35 per cent. Receipts from Canada rose by 72 per cent, from Australia by 55 per cent, and from New Zealand by 83 per cent.

Mustard Seed

CANADIAN production of mustard seed is expected this year to make a record total of 29 million pounds, from approximately 42,000 acres, primarily sown to this crop in western southern Alberta. Of the total acreage, 31,500 acres were of yellow mustard; 9,500 acres of brown mustard; and 1,000 acres of the Oriental variety.

Last year, Canada's mustard seed acreage amounted to 14,325 acres, which compares with 5,000 acres in 1949 and 30,000 acres in 1948. Canada uses about two million pounds of mustard seed and will, therefore, export approximately 27 million pounds, principally to the United States and perhaps the United Kingdom.

The mustard is grown under contract with two Lethbridge seed firms who have agreed to pay growers \$7 per 100 pounds of cleaned No. 1 yellow mustard seed, which compares with \$5.50 per 100 pounds in 1950, and \$6.75 in 1949.

The crop was introduced from Montana about 16 years ago.

World Meat Trade

FOR every hundred pounds of meat produced in the world, a little over five pounds entered international trade last year. The total amount crossing international boundaries was slightly under four billion pounds, according to Foreign Crops and Markets. This amount is still below the 1934-38 average of 4.55 billion pounds.

Canada was the most important exporting country in North America,

but the international meat trade was dominated last year by South America, Oceania and some European countries such as Denmark, Poland, The Netherlands, Ireland and France. Canada's contribution was quite small to total international trade, being only five per cent as compared with 19 per cent for New Zealand, 15 per cent for Denmark, 12 per cent for Australia, and seven per cent for Uruguay.

U.S. Price Support Costs

SINCE the Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1933, the American taxpayer has paid \$1,813,240,695 in price supports for food products. Of this large total, slightly less than half (\$900,665,083) has been expended for the support of sugar prices alone.

The next most expensive commodity to the taxpayer was potatoes, which have cost \$468,721,246 to support. Eggs came next, at a cost of \$141,503,049; wool, \$92,162,308; peanuts, \$77,906,597; wheat, \$65,578,741;

butter, \$47,200,848; cheese, \$25,061,762; dried milk, \$52,830,041; grain sorghum, \$34,145,906.

It is reported that sugar payments are made only to about 85,000 U.S. farmers, of whom 41 last year received more than \$100,000 each. Twenty-three received more than \$200,000; 15, more than \$300,000; eight, more than \$400,000; and three, more than \$500,000.

Potato Growers Quit

A REPORT from New South Wales, Australia, quotes the president of the N.S.W. Potato Growers Association as saying that more than 1,600 potato growers had quit the industry since July, 1950. The complaint of the Association president was that, "This was the only country in the world where such a calamitous cut in potato production has occurred."

The chairman of the NSW Potato Marketing Board said the shortage would never be remedied until growers were given an incentive to produce.

Horner Succeeds Hartnett

Director of Plant Industry Branch in Saskatchewan, succeeds to position vacated by deputy minister

MAURICE E. HARTNETT, deputy minister of agriculture in Saskatchewan since 1947, and prior to that director of Saskatchewan's Agricultural Representatives Service for several years, has resigned to become general manager of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede. That he leaves with the good wishes of the department which he has served for seven

years, is evidenced by the fine expression of appreciation and good will with which the Hon. I. C. Nollet, Minister of Agriculture, announced Mr. Hartnett's resignation. Said the Minister: "During his period of office as Deputy Minister, he not only assisted in building a fine administrative organization, but brought to the department an excellent spirit of co-operation within the service. Under his guidance, fine co-operative relationships were developed between the provincial department of agriculture, the University, and the Dominion services in all fields of activity."

He will be succeeded as Deputy Minister in Saskatchewan by W. H. Horner, director of the Plant Industry Branch of the Department. This appointment will become effective November 1. Mr. Horner was born in 1911, and received his primary and secondary education at Creelman, Sask. He was graduated in Agriculture from the University of Saskatchewan in 1933, receiving his master's degree for post-graduate studies in 1936. He has been, successively, student assistant in cereal breeding at the University of Saskatchewan; engaged in soil conservation work at the Experimental Station at Scott, Sask., for two years with the Forage Crop Laboratory, Saskatoon, five years with the Army following his enlistment early in 1942 (mainly overseas), and for one of these years was on the headquarters staff of



Maurice E. Hartnett, new general manager of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede.

years, is evidenced by the fine expression of appreciation and good will with which the Hon. I. C. Nollet, Minister of Agriculture, announced Mr. Hartnett's resignation. Said the Minister:

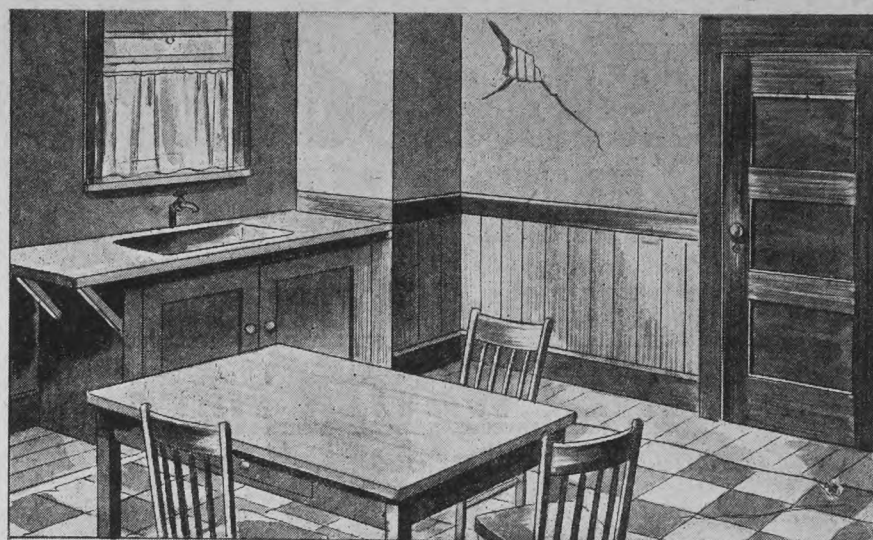
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Mr. Hartnett will bring to his new position, which is one of great responsibility, a very wide knowledge of agriculture in western Canada. Born in Ontario, raised on a Saskatchewan farm, and graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in Animal

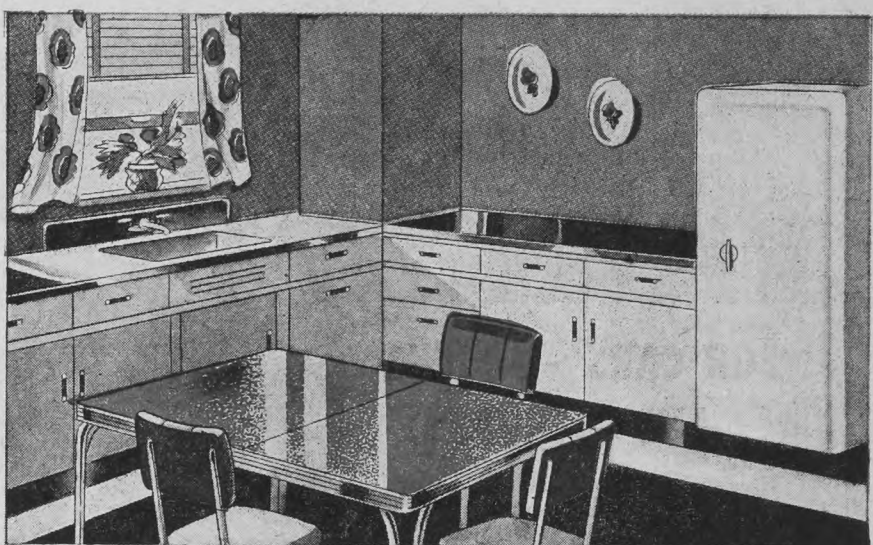


An informal picture of W. H. Horner, Saskatchewan's new deputy minister of agriculture.

the First Canadian Army. After his discharge in 1946, he has been successively assistant director, Agricultural Representatives Service in Saskatchewan, field crops commissioner, and director, Plant Industry Branch.



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Multi-Ring Grooved Implement Ribbed Tractor

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BEST TIRES ON EARTH

Get It at a Glance

Prices, crops, co-ops, livestock and other items of interest

THE Bureau of Statistics estimates that, as of June 1, cattle numbers in Canada had increased by three per cent to 9,383,300. All the provinces showed slight increases except New Brunswick, which held at 203,000. Ontario showed the largest increase amounting to 151,600. Milk cows in Canada decreased almost two per cent, but other cattle, including calves, increased about 6.5 per cent.

FARM co-operatives in the United States number 10,035 listed. These have 6,584,000 members and do an estimated business of \$8,726,000,000.

THE S.S. "Scott Misener" established a record for wheat cargoes from the Lakehead in July, and on August 22 set up another and better record by loading 657,056 bushels of wheat. Meanwhile, on August 8, the same boat loaded 694,731 bushels of barley at the Lakehead, thereby establishing a record for that grain.

ONTARIO'S hay crop this year was 35 per cent over last year, although the Ontario Department of Agriculture reports that a large portion was spoiled by rain. The 6,850,000 acres of hay and pasture crops account for about half the cultivated acreage in the province. A record 1,230,800 acres of mixed grain was sown this year, and the total grain crop may exceed the record 213 million bushels harvested in 1918.

THE sugar beet harvest this year in Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec, is expected to total 1,038,760 tons, from 97,130 acres, which would mean about 80,000 fewer tons of sugar than in 1950. Manitoba's yield is expected to be up, at 171,000 tons, and Alberta's slightly down at 421,590 tons.

THE June 1 livestock census in Canada indicated a 12 per cent increase in hogs on Canadian farms, raising the total to 5,875,000. Ontario showed the only decrease, with western Canada an estimated 30.4 per cent increase, led by Alberta with an increase of 228,300. The spring pig crops of the prairie provinces were estimated at 32.5 per cent increase for Manitoba; 50.1 per cent for Saskatchewan; and 34.7 per cent for Alberta, giving an average increase for western Canada as a whole, including British Columbia, of 36.4 per cent. In addition, 23 per cent more sows were expected to farrow during the June-November period this year.

THE National Research Council may soon complete studies of the low temperature evaporation of milk, which, if successful, will permit milk to be concentrated and sold to consumers at one-third of its fresh volume. Frozen concentrated milk products are already in the retail market of the United States.

DURING the month of October the National Cheese Festival sponsored by the Dairy Farmers of Canada and the National Dairy Council, will be observed across Canada. Per capita consumption of cheese in Canada at 4.2 pounds per year is little more than half that in the United States.

FROM January to August this year, inclusive, less creamery butter was produced in all provinces than in the same period last year, except Quebec and Prince Edward Island, where the increases were two per cent. Less cheese was produced in all provinces except New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, where the percentage increases were substantial, but the cheese involved amounted only to 400,000 pounds. Ice cream production, on the other hand, increased in all provinces but Ontario, and the domestic disappearance of ice cream in Canada increased by ten per cent during this period.

BETWEEN July, 1950, and July, 1951, the index number of Canadian farm prices of agricultural products (1935-39 equals 100), rose from 268.1 to 293.6. Between June and July of this year, the rise was 6.2 points. During the year ending July 31, farm prices rose in Ontario by 55 index points, as compared with 25.5 points for the country as a whole.

EARLY in September, Britain re-established bacon carcass grading at all bacon factories, with a view to re-establishing the quality of home-produced bacon. For at least a year, grading will be purely educational and will not affect the system of payments.

CANADIAN co-operatives did their heaviest business in 1950, at \$1,039,837,258. There were 314 more associations, which brought the total to 2,951. It is estimated that during the year ending July, 1950, co-operatives marketed 35.2 per cent of the principal farm products sold commercially in Canada. Omitting grain and seed, the percentage of the total of each of several types of products sold co-operatively is reported as follows: tobacco, 99.4 per cent; wool, 76.4 per cent; grains, 60.6 per cent; fruits and vegetables, 35.8 per cent; honey, 33 per cent; maple products, 28.2 per cent; dairy products, 27.9 per cent; poultry and eggs, 15.3 per cent.

AN Alberta Holstein owned by H. L. Ahrens, Red Deer, Alberta, has produced 57,975 pounds of milk in two lactations on twice-a-day milking, and thereby established a world record. Norah is reported to be one of the few cows ever to make over 100,000 pounds of milk in her first five lactations on twice-a-day milking.

THERE were 1,355 entries in the National Barley Contest this year, of which 520 were from Manitoba, 458 from Alberta, and 377 from Saskatchewan. Established in 1946, the contest first drew 1,234 entries. Over the next four years, the number of entries dropped to 620 in 1950. This year, for the first time, those who have previously won the \$1,000 prize may not enter; nor may anyone else enter barley grown on the farms of previous winners.

THE 1950 U.S. Census shows a decrease of 480,126 in the number of U.S. farms, of which about one-half were due to a change in the census definition of a farm. The total number of U.S. farms now stands at 5,379,043. Texas has the most farms, at 331,494, and Rhode Island the least at 2,596.



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Proves right throttle setting for best performance, economy



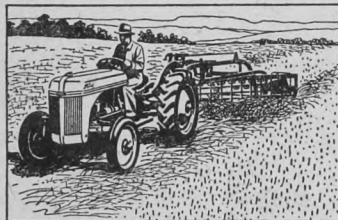
The Ford Tractor's engine has an ample reserve of power and excellent "lugging" ability. But to get greatest possible performance and economy, you should run the engine at about 1750 r.p.m. Now with the Proof-Meter you can hit and hold this speed all day!

Year by year, the Ford Tractor has been made better and better. And now a daring new advancement has been added . . . a way for the Ford Tractor owner to be sure he is getting the fine performance, outstanding economy and long life which Ford builds into this great tractor.

That's exactly what the new Proof-Meter provides! It gives proof each job is being done most efficiently, most economically. Farmers up to now could only *guess* at best engine speeds, correct gear, right throttle setting, and much more. But now owners of the new Ford Tractor can know; owners of other tractors still guess.

The Proof-Meter brings something new in money-making tractor operation—in ability to do better work more easily and economically—something it will pay you to learn about without delay!

Proves tractor speed is right for work being done



very close limits. With the Proof-Meter you at last know the travel speed in any gear, on any job.

The Ford Tractor gives you a wide range of speeds with its constant mesh, 4-speed transmission. For best results on many jobs tractor travel speeds should be held to

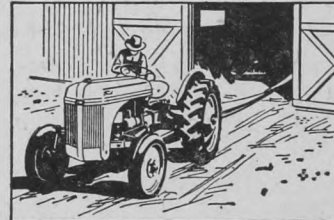
Proves right speed for best work with P.T.O.-operated machines



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With the breaking of the long drought B.C. is taking stock of damage done, while still considering the standard problems of fisheries and farming, power supplies and politics

by CHAS. L. SHAW

THE long drought is over in British Columbia, and the wheels of industry are turning again. It was a costly experience and the estimates range as high as \$50 million in lost production, but no one will ever be able to calculate a true figure because the effects of the situation are largely intangible.

After nearly 100 days of warm, dry weather, broken only by a few inconsequential showers, the closures that had been applied to British Columbia coastal forests were lifted and the loggers—thousands of them—drifted back to the woods camps to maintain the flow of logs that pumps lifeblood into the province's No. 1 money-maker. But at this late date it will be impossible to make up for the time lost this year, even though some of the loggers have agreed to work longer hours—at overtime rates of course.

The farmers took a beating, too, especially those in the Fraser Valley and on Vancouver Island, although the Okanagan and other well-known producing areas suffered, also. Hay crops that would ordinarily have lasted through the winter have already been consumed and it is probable that an unprecedented volume of feed will have to be brought into the province, the alternative being wholesale slaughter of herds.

THE threat of future disastrous floods on the Fraser may be banished entirely as a result of the damming of the Nechako system for the Aluminum Co.'s huge hydro-electric project at Kitimat. One of the world's largest rock-fill dams is to be built on the eastern edge of Tweedsmuir Park and engineers believe that sufficient water will be held in storage there to ensure pretty effective control of floods over the whole course of the river.

The long controversy over the Aluminum Co. development is now a matter of history, but the battle for hydro-electric power has broken out anew in other parts of the province. The B.C. Power Commission has been seeking the right to build a dam in the Strathcona Park area on Vancouver Island, and this is being sharply contested by a well organized group which cannot tolerate the idea of interference with one of the province's great potential resort areas.

Down in the southeastern section of B.C. another conflict is threatened by the proposed flooding of many thousands of acres for Columbia River development. This would not only affect farm lands but submerge valuable forest land that would be tributary to a multimillion-dollar pulp and lumber development being planned for that area. The next few years seem destined to witness a continuing struggle between power interests and various other industries such as farming, forestry and fisheries.

So far as fisheries are concerned, however, the main concern during the past months has been with the treaty negotiations at San Francisco. Before World War II Japanese fishermen had raided the salmon grounds off Alaska, and Canadians as well as Americans

feared that without adequate provision against such inroads in the future their joint stake in the salmon, halibut and herring industries would be jeopardized. For that reason it had been hoped to insert in the peace treaty with Japan clauses stipulating that Japanese fishermen would not encroach on the fisheries this side of the Pacific Ocean.

However, as the negotiations progressed it was found that a stipulation of this kind would not be feasible inasmuch as it would open the way for countless other provisions by other special interests. It was finally agreed that there would have to be a separate treaty on fisheries alone, and it may be that Canada will have a bilateral pact with Japan covering this situation; either that or a tripartite covenant including the United States, Canada and Japan. Both Canada and the United States are agreed that there shall be no more interference with their valuable fish resources by foreign fishermen; the only point at issue is the legal machinery for attaining that objective.

A PART from the excitement over a by-election in Esquimalt which may test the strength of the coalition, the political air west of the Rockies has been untroubled. The government is still "on the spot" over hospital insurance, but it is determined to get off it just as soon as possible. A committee of legislators has been touring the province, listening to complaints and suggestions and is now trying to draft a report whose recommendations will place the insurance system on a basis that will be more generally acceptable and at the same time prevent a further rise in costs. So much evidence of a conflicting nature was heard that no one envies the task of the committee.

While the legislature will be summoned for a special session before midwinter, it will probably not deal with much more than social security legislation resulting from the province's partnership with the Ottawa government on the pensions plan. The hospital insurance report will have to wait until the regular spring session, and the committee members will probably welcome the delay.

This contentious issue is only one of several that have plagued the government. Another is the proposed relocation of the cantankerous Sons of Freedom Doukhobors. As everyone knows, these so-called Freedomites have been the cause of most of the troubles in the Doukhobor colony; they just can't get along with their orthodox neighbors in the Kootenay country. The proposed remedy was to move them to a new settlement area near Kamloops, but such a program was understandably protested by the good people of Kamloops, whose member in the legislature has even gone so far as to threaten the use of force in preventing the migration. If anyone knows of a nice, isolated spot where the Sons of Freedom would be welcome, his suggestion would be wholeheartedly received by the British Columbia gov-

ernment. But no such offers seem probable.

One thing that gives the government comfort is the sales tax, and one wonders how the province managed to get along without it. For the year ending next March the sales tax will yield an estimated \$26,000,000, according to the cautious guess of the government. Actually it will probably top \$30,000,000. The government is cautious because it invariably wishes to cushion the effect of what it regards as a more or less inevitable recession.

However, this expectation seems to be not generally shared, and there is certainly nothing on the industrial horizon that gives it support. The boom in British Columbia continues without interruption and now that the drought has ended revenues will begin to flow again in channels temporarily blocked. As an indication of the business expansion retail sales for the first five months of this year were up 16 per cent over last year, when almost everyone felt that the province had reached a commercial peak of some kind.

There is little doubt, however, that before the year's end some of the effects of the unprecedented summer will catch up with the economy. They may not be long-lasting but they cannot easily be avoided. For one thing, a rather serious milk shortage is threatened, and a decline in poultry and egg production is indicated. Turkeys may not be typical, but instead of the expected increase of 25 per cent in the number of poult hatched there has been an actual decrease of 16 per cent.

Is It a Death Trap?

The driveway into your yard may be a menace to your neighbors

by ISABELLE LANGILLE

PERHAPS you have never thought that each time you ride down your driveway Death goes with you. Perhaps no serious accident has happened yet, but have you ever thought it was due only to luck? One landowner that I have known was very proud of the beautiful cedar hedge, which extended to the drain of the highway. In a hurry, the owner would dash down the lane and out on the pavement on his way to town—without stopping. But one day he did stop—stopped with a crash.

This incident makes us more conscious of the dangers that may be on our own property. We may be so used to them that we hardly notice them. But what about those trees and shrubs lining your driveway?

Make sure all the shrubs and trees have been cleared from the entrance to let the driver see several hundred yards both ways. One farmer removed the bottom limbs from the pines, leaving the trunks branchless for six feet from the ground.

Can the car coming into your driveway swing at a convenient angle to make the curve? Is your entrance on the pitch of a hill or on a sharp bend? Is there loose gravel or any factor to cause skidding or stalling?

With these suggestions you may be able to improve the approach to your home. Money used to prevent the loss of life is well spent. Your efforts may result in more beauty for your home and you will be happier with these safety measures.

Farm Service Facts

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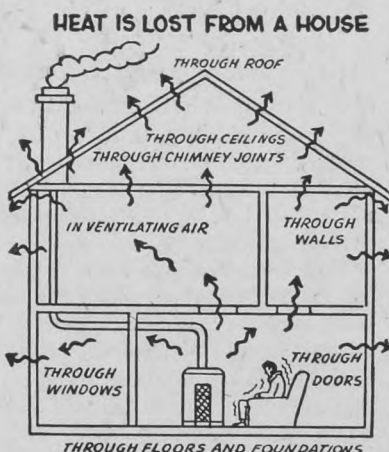
Oil heating offers many advantages. Insulation of your home and pre-season check up of your space heater pays.

Over the past twenty odd years there has been a steady increase in the use of petroleum products for heating. Oil as a fuel has many desirable qualities. It is easily and cleanly stored and requires no handling. The storage tank does away with the labour and dirt associated with handling, storing and using coal and wood. When properly burned within the combustion chamber oil produces a fire that is free from soot and smoke and leaves little or no residue. This fact is particularly appreciated by the housewife who has had, in the past, to contend with ashes and dust.

The popularity of oil heating is due in part to the development of the space heater which is low in initial cost, easy to install and burns efficiently with low consumption of fuel. The oil burning space heater offers other advantages. Heat is easily regulated and burner can be safely turned down during the night to save fuel. Also, the new space heaters are attractive pieces of furniture, designed to harmonize with the other furnishings in the home.

To Save Fuel, Control Loss of Heat

In most cases, the cost of insulating a house can be paid for in a few years by the saving in fuel alone. Insulation of the attic may bring savings up to 20 percent. Attic insulation is most important because heat rises and is constantly pushing against the roof trying to escape. Attic insulation puts a barrier in its way. Insulation of the attic and walls may so reduce



Due to heat losses as little as 50 percent of the heat in a fuel may be delivered to the rooms for heating. Insulation and weather-stripping will save fuel.

losses that fuel savings may reach 30 or 40 percent. Loosely fitted doors and windows and cracks cause a further loss of heat. Storm windows, storm doors and caulking openings around window frames and doors may save up to 15 to 25 percent of the fuel.

Tests on insulated and weather-stripped houses show that an overall saving of fuel of over 50 percent can be made as compared with uninsulated houses. Not only does insulation and repair save fuel; it also gives better warm air circulation which helps to prevent cold floors, discomfort and unhealthful conditions.

Another Way to Save Fuel—Keep Your Heater Clean

An accumulation of soot and carbon in the burner acts as an insulator and keeps the heat from getting to the heating surfaces. An excessive accumulation of carbon which necessitates frequent cleaning is caused by either too much draft, not enough draft or the use of dirty or too heavy fuel. It is advisable to clean the burner as necessary to insure a clean burning flame during the season the heater is in use.

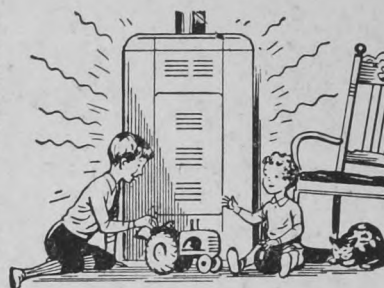
A wire brush will readily dislodge the carbon from the walls of the fire pot so that the holes in the side of the fire pot are open and unobstructed. A small piece of tin or cardboard may be used to scoop up the carbon from the bottom of the fire pot. If the stove pipe or chimney is partially filled with soot, cleaning is necessary.



A deposit of soot of $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in the heating unit may cause a loss of as much as 10 percent in the efficiency of your fuel. Periodic cleaning pays.

Clean Out Carbon Residue in Feed Pipe

The small pipe that carries fuel directly into the base of the burner may become encrusted with carbon particles preventing the free flow of fuel. The remedy is to remove the small cast iron plug in the end of the pipe and force a good heavy wire through the pipe into the base of the burner. It is also advisable to clean the sediment screen on the mixing valve or carburetor at the same time. Do not tamper with the adjusting screws or the carburetor as they are set at the factory and do not need any further adjustment.



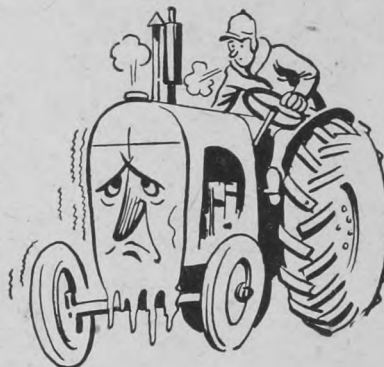
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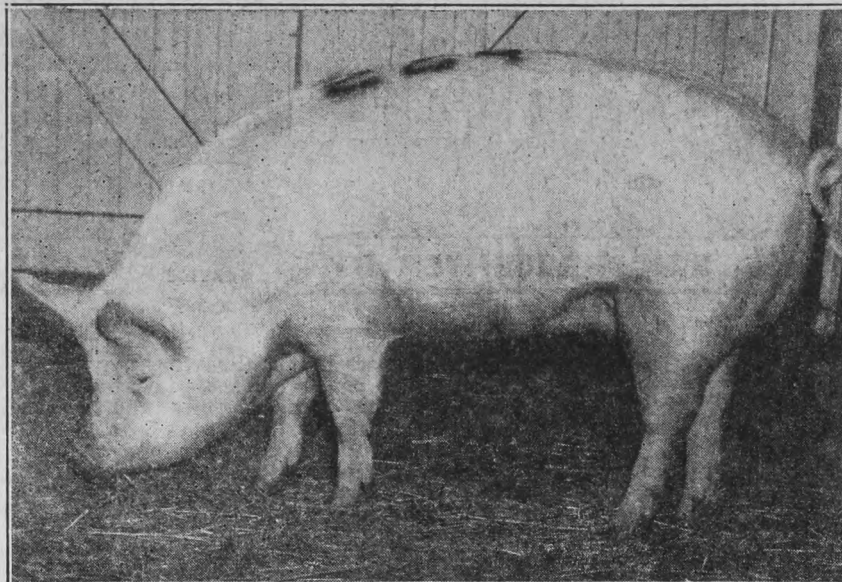
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Though prices remain relatively high, hog marketings, despite slightly higher average carcass weights, were fewer and yielded a smaller total dressed weight to the end of August than for the same period in 1950.

Hogs and Barley Go Together

BETWEEN June 1, 1950, and June 1, 1951, the number of hogs in Alberta increased by 228,300. The black soil zone of the province was responsible for 80 per cent of this increase: this means the area between Olds and Athabasca, and east and west through Edmonton.

R. E. English, statistician of the Alberta Department of Agriculture, discovered that hogs and barley production go together in Alberta—either there is more barley where there are more hogs, or there are more hogs where there is more barley. Which comes first, the Department does not say, but the fact remains that, based on 1951 seeded acreage and long term average yields, there were 1,340 bushels of barley and 16.7 pigs per farm in the Innisfail-Camrose area, and only 317 bushels of barley and 3.1 pigs per farm in the Youngstown district. Of ten representative areas in the province selected for statistical study, the number of hogs and the number of bushels of barley per farm increased or decreased as the other factor changed.

A.R. Beef Cattle

THE Ontario Department of Agriculture reported recently the results secured from the first seven steers to be tested at the Ontario Agricultural College under the Ontario advanced registry policy for beef cattle. The results are said to indicate very clearly why some beef producers make a lot more money than others.

The figures on feed costs of producing a pound of gain from these steers, range from a low of 22 cents to a high of 28½ cents per pound.

Some carcasses were better than others, but all qualified for red brand beef. The important point, in the opinion of those responsible for the testing, was the inherited ability of these animals to make gains economically and still give high-quality carcasses.

There were marked differences between the different steers in the amount of feed they consumed and the gains made. The Department says: "The calf with the best record for producing beef economically was a good feeder, though not the heaviest eater of the seven. He ate, on the average, 11 pounds of grain and 8.4

pounds of hay per day, and from this produced an average of 2.33 pounds of gain per day. Against this, the calf with the highest costs ate more of both hay and grain (11.3 pounds of grain and nine pounds of hay). Even with this additional feed, he gained only 1.87 pounds per day, which meant that over a feeding period of approximately 200 days his production of beef for his owner was some 90 pounds less than the steer with the best record."

The report indicates that the steer with the lowest cost of production gained 465 pounds in 199 days of feeding, at a total cost of \$102.61. On the other hand, the steer with the highest cost of production gave his owner a gain of only 377 pounds in 201 days, at a cost of \$170.40.

The steers, under this policy, were placed in a test barn within two weeks of the time they were six months of age. After a preliminary feeding period of from three to four weeks, they were placed on a standard feeding ration and fed for approximately 196 days, when they were marketed and graded on the rail. In the opinion of W. P. Watson, Ontario Livestock Commissioner, the advanced registry policy provides for the testing of the ability of beef bulls to sire calves which will produce good beef economically; and, for the commercial breeder, the ability to produce the most beef for the least feed is by far the most important characteristic his sire can transmit.

Estimating Feed Quantity

IT is easy enough to estimate the amount of grain in a bin, but it is more difficult to determine with reasonable accuracy the number of tons of hay in a stack. This will vary for several reasons.

First, it is likely to vary, depending on whether the stack is of grass, cereal or legume hay, as well as depending on the length of time the stack has been up, the amount of trampling when stacked, the dryness of the hay prevailing afterward. Hay rained on soon after stacking will be much heavier per cubic foot of hay than hay that has been properly cured and stacked.

A good rule for obtaining the approximate number of tons of alfalfa hay in a stack, after at least 60 days,

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is to multiply the length of the stack in feet, by the width in feet, by one-third of the overthrow in feet; then divide by 500. If the stack consists of oat hay, divide by 650; and if the stack is of grass, such as brome or timothy hay, divide by 600.

The overthrow is the distance from the base of the stack on one side over the top to the base on the other side.

In addition to knowing, about this time of year, how much hay and other stacked material is available, it is a good precaution to measure the amount of feed grain available as well. To find with fair accuracy the number of bushels in a granary or bin multiply the length of the granary by the width and by the depth of grain in the granary. Multiply the number of feet thus secured by eight, and divide by ten.

The Cow's Tongue

THE cow's tongue is a more important foraging organ than that of the sheep. At the back is a prominence which is marked by a groove or depression crosswise on the tongue. In front of this groove, the tiny projections from the tongue, called papillae, are horny and have sharp points directed backward. These give the tip of the tongue a rasp-like roughness and add to its efficiency in reaching out and grasping food.

The papillae, or projections, on the prominence at the back of the tongue are large and broad, some of them flattened, and others blunt and conical. It is in these that the very tiny taste buds occur, as well as in the soft palate and the surface at the opening of the epiglottis.

The sheep, on the other hand, is a closer-grazing animal than the cow, and has a less evident prominence and groove on its tongue. These are absent altogether on the horse.

The cow's tongue is often the seat of an infectious disease called actinobacillosis, which is often accompanied by ulcers. These have their beginning, as a rule, in the groove or transverse depression across the tongue, and they may be covered with useless material such as hair and vegetable matter.

When the tongue of the cow becomes very much inflamed, it becomes fibrous, hard and difficult to move about. It may protrude from the mouth, which has led to the term, "wooden tongue." Saliva flows freely, and the animal becomes thin and emaciated as a result of loss of ability to take feed.

Treatment of this infection, on the advice of a veterinarian, is successful as a rule. The Range Experiment Station at Manyberries, Alberta, reports that doses of 1½ to 2½ drams of potassium iodide, in a drench administered daily for two or three weeks, have given good results.

Farm Slaughtering

DURING recent years, a very large number of frozen food locker plants have developed in western Canada. In a great many instances at least, farmers renting lockers, will slaughter their own animals and either cut up and wrap the parcels of meat for storage in the locker or have the locker plant do so. On a great many other farms, animals are slaughtered every year for home use, and as a result of all this amateur slaughtering, it is reported that large quantities of meat

are lost each year, especially during the hot weather.

L. H. Arnold, supervisor of frozen food locker plants in the Alberta Department of Agriculture, recommends certain precautions and details of careful and successful slaughtering. In the first place, all animals should be corralled, or held in a barn for about 24 hours before slaughtering, withholding feed but allowing plenty of drinking water during this interval. There is wisdom in handling animals gently, because an excited animal interferes with proper bleeding and there is also a tendency for the meat to toughen as a result of excitement.

The best time of day for slaughtering is toward evening on a cool day, and speed is essential.

When cattle are to be killed, they should be stunned before bleeding. On the other hand, shackle hogs by one hind leg, hoist them off the ground, and bleed without stunning. The reason is that the blood from a hog in this position will flow freely and the animal will be kept clean.

Mr. Arnold recommends that for sticking, a short-bladed knife be used. The incision need not be more than two inches in length.

After a hog has been bled properly, immerse it in water for scalding. The water should be at a temperature of from 129 to 142 degrees F. Keep the hog moving in the vat to avoid over-scalding.

When all entrails are removed, split the carcass down the chine or backbone. Remove the leaf lard of hogs, or the suet in the beef, then leave the carcass hanging overnight to firm and cool. If delivered to a locker plant for storage, the carcass should be delivered early the morning following the killing. There it will be hung in a chill room for a few days before being processed.

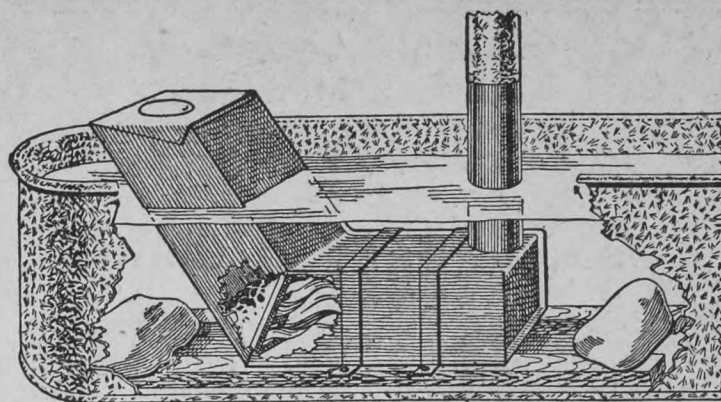
The important point is to reduce the internal temperature of the carcass as quickly as possible, to between 35 and 40 degrees F. Three good rules are: never slaughter on a hot day; avoid exciting the animal; and remove body heat as quickly as possible.

Acetonemia

WISCONSIN scientists explain acetonemia as a disturbance in the way an animal uses its feed after digestion. A shortage of energy in the body resulting from using more energy than is available in the form of sugar, brings about the burning of more fat in the liver and other tissues. The incomplete burning of this extra fat is believed to bring about acetone in the blood.

Very often it is the best dairy cow in the herd that comes down with acetonemia. About half of all the cases occur within one week after calving, and most of the remainder within 30 days, according to the Wisconsin people. When it occurs right after calving, the most common symptoms are said to be paralysis and complete unconsciousness. The disease is usually not fatal, but it upsets production and cuts down the revenue. The cow acts and looks as if she had milk fever, and veterinarians sometimes use a chemical test of the urine to distinguish between the two diseases.

When the disease appears a little later after calving, there is a loss of appetite, either gradual or sudden, a quick decrease in condition, and a marked falling off in milk flow. A pecu-



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liar smell of acetone may sometimes be noticed on the breath of the animal.

Acetonemia may be produced by starvation, according to H. E. Dale, Wisconsin veterinary scientist, and the reason good dairy cattle sicken so soon after calving may be that animals are using more sugar in making milk than the body can afford. The extra strain of calving, followed by heavy milk production, may bring it on.

Veterinarians often inject a special sugar directly into the blood stream, and sometimes recovery is dramatic. Other drugs may be used to treat the nervous condition and still others to stimulate the appetite. The earlier the treatment, the better. It is recommended that a good nutritious feed will go a long way toward preventing acetonemia. Care should be exercised in the way the ration is cut down at calving time, which is, after all, a critical period.

Cull Ewes Carefully

THE Experimental Station at Lethbridge reports that as the body weights of ewes increase fleece weights are increased proportionately. This was true of both Rambouillet and Canadian Corriedale ewes in the two flocks maintained at Lethbridge.

For example, ewes of both breeds, weighing from 80 to 89 pounds yielded fleeces weighing 7.9 pounds. Ewes weighing from 100 to 109 pounds yielded 9.4 pounds of fleece for the Rambouillet and 9.9 for the Corriedale. These were shearing ewes. Eighty to 90-pound Corriedale mature ewes gave 7.8 pounds of fleece. One hundred to 119-pound ewes yielded 10.5 pounds of wool. Those weighing 130 to 139 pounds gave 10.9 pounds of wool and those weighing more than 150 pounds produced 11.4 pounds of wool.

The Station points out that many small-bodied sheep are to be found in nearly all range flocks. These, it will be seen, inevitably reduce net returns, and represent failure to cull systematically and effectively. It is a fairly simple matter to weigh the ewes at shearing time, together with their fleeces, and then mark the low producers for shipment in the fall. If scales are not available, it is fairly easy to select the smaller off-type ewes, and mark them.

Vitamin B-12 and Antibiotics

SOME interesting swine feeding experiments were conducted during the past year by the Animal Science Department of the University of Alberta. They had to do with the comparative values in swine feeding of the comparatively new Vitamin B-12 and that class of compounds including aureomycin, penicillin, streptomycin and terramycin, which are known as antibiotics, because their action is to kill other minute organisms. The antibiotics may contain Vitamin B-12, and, formerly, both together were commonly spoken of as the animal protein factor, or APF. Now that more is known about them, they are spoken of correctly as Vitamin B-12 supplements, and Vitamin B-12 and antibiotic feed supplements.

Four experiments involving 96 purebred Yorkshire weanling pigs were conducted, which may be summarized as follows:

All pigs were fed a basal ration of barley, oats and a supplement containing animal and vegetable protein,

together with iodized salt and limestone. At 125 pounds weight, the basal ration was changed, but all pigs were fed the same basal ration.

When Vitamin B-12 was added to the basal ration, the pigs so fed were slightly superior in rate of gain and efficiency of feed utilization over the whole period from 30 pounds weight to 200 pounds, though this was not true from 30 pounds to 125 pounds. When the cost of the supplement was included, the Vitamin B-12 supplement did not produce cheaper gains than where no supplement was used.

Where aureomycin was added as a supplement, the pigs grew at a much more rapid rate up to 125 pounds, than those not fed a supplement.

Pigs fed aureomycin ate more feed, but the feed efficiency during the growing period and in the over-all period was superior both to the Vitamin B-12-fed pigs, and to those not receiving either supplement.

The aureomycin-fed pigs made a 20 to 24 per cent faster gain with consequent lower labor and overhead costs, particularly up to 125 pounds weight, and they took 14 days less, than the pigs without supplement, to reach this weight. From 125 to 200 pounds, they took only six days less.

Aureomycin lowered carcass quality as determined by advanced registry scores, by 15 per cent in the lot supplemented by animal protein, and by 23 per cent in the mixed protein-supplemented lot. The carcasses were generally reduced in length with a thicker covering of fat over the back and loin.

Because of the effect on carcass quality, antibiotic supplements cannot be recommended for use in finishing rations.

When fed to unthrifty weanling pigs, .5 per cent of aureomycin and Vitamin B-12 feed supplement resulted in a marked increase in appetite, rate of gain, and efficiency of feed utilization.

The Alberta experimenters conclude from these results that: "It would seem that the addition of antibiotic supplements to the rations of poor-doing young pigs is the manner by which maximum benefits may be obtained from the use of these growth-promoting compounds."

Ram Grading Policy Changed

THE Canada Department of Agriculture has recently announced a revised ram grading policy, involving a change in breed requirements "to fit current trend from showyard to utility sheep."

The policy provides a similar service to the old one, but it is now known as "ram classification." It is described as follows:

Three classes of rams are defined by specification—stud, breeder, and commercial, and are identified by tattoo marks SD, BR and CL, respectively. These marks replace the former 3XA, SX and 2X. Identification of the individual will be made in the left ear, and the breeder's private flock letters still will be carried in the left ear.

Stud and breeder classes are for rams intended for use on purebred flocks, while rams in the commercial class are recommended only for use on grade flocks for the production of market lambs.

Purebred rams will be classified by production service officials under direction of district fieldmen in the provinces at an appointed time.



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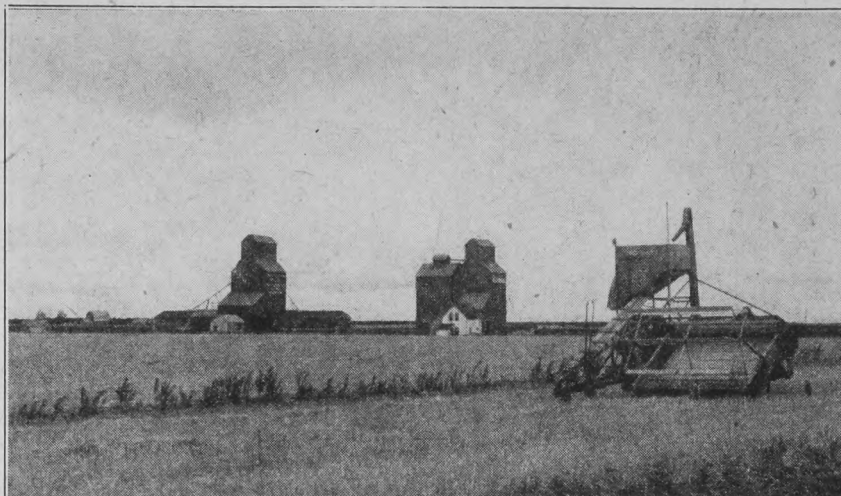


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FIELD



[Guide photo]

The swathed grain, combine and elevators represent prairie Canada's complex harvesting problem this year. The windbreak is representative of 60 miles or more of plantings since 1945 in the R.M. of Star City, northeastern Saskatchewan.

Fall Sowing of Forage Crops

THE practice is more or less general across the prairie provinces of seeding grass-legume mixtures, or legumes alone, in the spring or in the very late fall, just before freezing. The Experimental Farm at Brandon, however, recommends that sweet clover not be seeded in the fall.

With grasses, the recommendations are different. Grasses may be seeded any time up to the middle of September, or in the spring. Early fall seeding is successful where there is plenty of soil moisture as is the case this year, and the reason for early fall seeding is to enable the seedlings to establish themselves well before freeze-up.

J. E. Birdsall, Supervisor of Crop Improvement, Alberta Department of Agriculture, recommends undisturbed stubble as the best seed bed for any fall seeded forage crop. This is because it provides a firm soil which is so important with small seeds. It also makes shallow seeding possible. "Don't worry about trash and stubble on the field," says Mr. Birdsall. "The trash will catch snow in the winter to water the seed in the spring and will prevent soil drifting and water erosion, that so often occur on well-prepared summer-fallow."

Grass-legume mixtures seeded after October 15 will not generate in the fall, but the seed will be ready to take full advantage of early spring moisture. Legumes, when seeded early in the fall, tend to kill out during the winter. Brandon officials say that while early fall seedings of alfalfa may be successful in some cases, experience advises against it.

Reed Canary Grass

IF you have small pieces of land here and there which are impossible to crop normally because of spring flooding, there is still time to seed them down to Reed Canary Grass before freeze-up. This grass is very suitable for any spring-flooded lands that are not alkaline or salty.

The reason for fall seeding is so that germination will take place as early as possible in the spring after the flood waters are off. Thus, the cool moist part of the season is available to the young plants for a start.

This grass is a rather coarse perennial with leafy stems, reaching from two to eight feet in height. It spreads underground by short root-stalks and tends to grow in dense bunches. For this reason, it is better utilized for

cattle than for sheep pasture, and when pastured should not be allowed to make excessive growth. Beginning growth early in the spring, it withstands grazing quite well.

It is useful for hay production, if first grazed to promote leafiness and then cut for hay when about 25 per cent of the early heads are in bloom. On damp land, it cures slowly. It is less palatable than other grasses such as brome or creeping red fescue, according to the Lethbridge Station, and is not recommended for other than spring-flooded land.

Is Fall Irrigation Necessary?

IN irrigating, whether summer or fall, a safe guide is to apply enough and only enough water to completely wet the soil down to the depth of the root zone and over the entire field. For grain, this is four to six feet."

Here is a guide to good irrigation suggested by the Experimental Station at Lethbridge. Whether fall irrigation is necessary can be easily determined by examining the soil down to a depth of at least four feet. If at this depth the soil is moist enough to form a ball when rolled in the hand, no fall irrigation should be applied. Irrigation is advisable if the soil is dry and powdery.

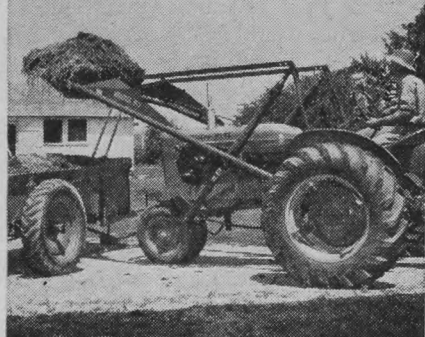
In all likelihood, there will be less need for fall irrigation this year than normally, because of the very large amount of rainfall received during the growing season, and during the period up to September 15, over very large areas. On the other hand, if the carry-over of moisture from last year was low, and a heavy crop grown this year, the moisture supplies may be fairly well used up.

The moisture-holding capacities of soils differ. When they are dried out, silt and clay loams, according to the Lethbridge authorities, will hold eight inches or more water in four feet of soil. Sandy soils will have space for only three inches in the same depth.

To determine the depth of water applied in an irrigation, farmers are advised to multiply the irrigating head in cubic feet per second, by the number of hours of run, and divide the result by the number of acres covered. This gives the depth of water applied in inches.

The official irrigation season ends October 1, the principal reason being that the management of a project is thus afforded some opportunity to make necessary repairs before the

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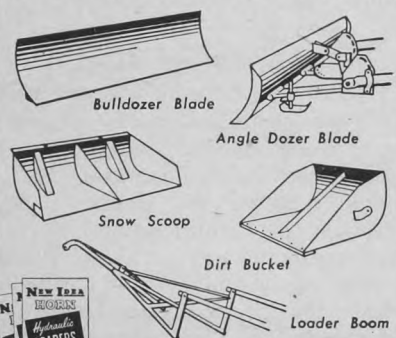


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freeze-up. Another very important reason for applying fall irrigation early is that seepage is reduced and ground water is given some opportunity to drain away. Thus, irrigation should be applied as soon as possible after harvest and with sufficient care to see that the amount applied does not exceed the moisture-holding capacity of the soil.

Ergot Is Harmful

IN August and September, millions of people probably read and heard about the disaster which struck a small French village, many people in which had eaten some bread made from grain infected with ergot. The miller who produced the flour lived a considerable distance away, and knowing the flour was poor, but not knowing it was poisonous, shipped it away from his own locality, where most of his customers lived. As a result, some people died, and others were made seriously ill.

Recently, the Experimental Farm at Brandon noted that ergot infection in grain seems to have been on the increase in recent years, and recalled that during the season of 1950, rye, barley, wheat, as well as wild and cultivated grasses, were seen bearing the black horn-like ergot bodies.

It is these horn-like bodies which, if consumed, are harmful to animals and human beings as well, and may also initiate the disease the following season. When they fall to the soil, small spore-bearing bodies are produced which throw off spores into the air, that are in turn carried to the heads of susceptible grains or grasses.

Following this infection stage, another stage called the honeydew stage, may develop, where the spores produced from infected heads appear in a honey-like exudate.

Control measures for grain crops include the use of rotation of crops, clean seed, and the early cutting of nearby grasses. It is recommended that if seed is used that carries ergot bodies, it should be seeded to a depth of two or more inches. Furthermore, a year of summerfallow, or, following a diseased crop with one that is more resistant or immune, is good practice.

Good Grain Storage

LOSSES of grain occur when it heats and goes out of condition. A statement from the Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, says that the cause of most storage problems is tough grain, because grain that is uniformly dry will not spoil. Heating develops when the grain is attacked by insects, mites or molds. Consequently, successful storage depends on the proper preparation of the storage bins or granaries and the necessary care and attention after storage begins.

"The farmer's first task," says the Department, "is to bin grain as dry as possible in a clean, weatherproof, well-ventilated granary. Secondly, the grain should be examined periodically, because leaks, seepage or condensation may introduce excessive moisture and cause local heating. Thirdly, if insect infestation should develop, serious damage may be prevented by transferring the grain to another location in cold weather."

A large granary is not as satisfactory for long-term storage as smaller ones, and the best granary is said to be one with a wooden floor off the ground. Concrete floors should be covered with

moisture-proof paper, and any leaking roofs, windows and doors repaired to keep out rain and snow.

The recommendation from the Department is that walls and floors should be cleaned thoroughly, and hydrated lime sprinkled on the floor and swept about to fill all cracks. Where insects or mites were present last year, inside walls need whitewashing with a quarter-pound of lye per gallon.

In large granaries, the moisture of the grain itself may condense in the surface layers. This indicates the advisability of examining stored grain every two weeks, by thrusting a hand into the grain here and there to detect heating, and smelling the grain to determine abnormal odors. If the tough grain is below the surface, push a small metal rod or pipe three or four feet into the grain.

If, in spite of all precautions, heating and infestation develop during the storage period, cold winter weather is the owner's greatest ally. Such infested, moldy or badly colored grain should be transferred to a clean granary in freezing weather if possible, and it is still better if the grain is cleaned during transfer. Even if the grain has to be transferred to a tarpaulin or bare ground, it is preferable to leaving it in the granary. Properly cleaned and transferred in freezing weather, tough grain may remain in good condition throughout the summer.

Lee Wheat

LEE is a new, hard-red spring wheat, which was licensed for sale in Canada in 1950. It was produced by the University of Minnesota, in co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture, and was first tested in Canada in 1947. In the spring of 1950, about 1,075 pounds of seed were distributed by the Dominion Laboratory of Cereal Breeding, Winnipeg, to about 12 contract growers, who this spring seeded about 400 bushels. It is expected that about 8,000 bushels of seed will be available for distribution planting in 1952.

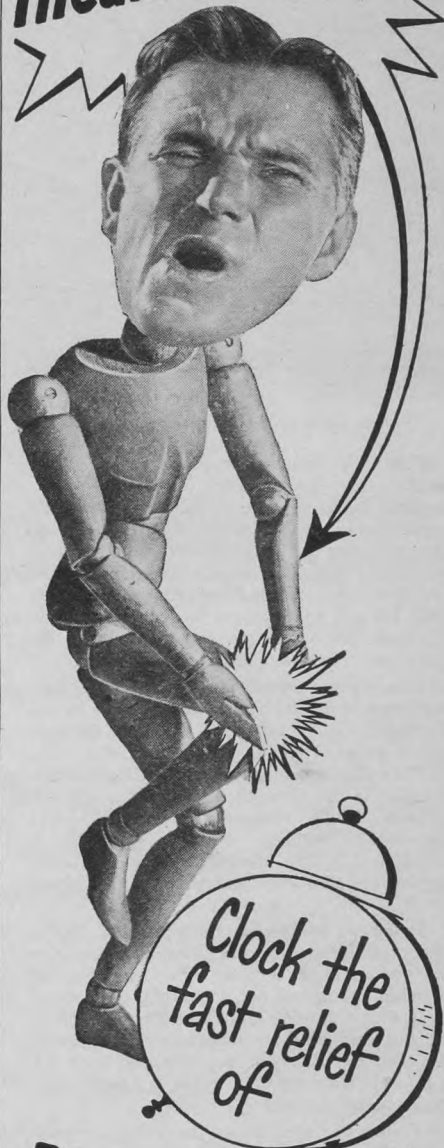
"Seed growers," says the Department, "will be granted a priority and preference of stocks, and the remaining stocks will be distributed to other farmers."

Persons interested in securing a supply of seed for next spring should apply directly to the Dominion Laboratory of Cereal Breeding, The University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, or to the nearest Dominion Experimental Farm or Station.

Lee is a bearded variety with smooth, white chaff, and having egg-shaped, medium-sized, red kernels. Its most outstanding characteristic is that it is highly resistant to leaf rust, and has outyielded all other standard varieties where leaf rust is an important disease. This is not true, however, in other areas. In Manitoba, Lee has exceeded Redman and Thatcher in rod row trials by about 2.5 bushels per acre during 1947-50. It is medium early, but matures on the average two or three days later than Redman and Thatcher. It is equal to Marquis in baking quality.

Classed as a strong-strawed variety, it is slightly weaker than the commercial varieties now grown. It is also resistant to most races of stem rust, but not to Race 15B. It may be more susceptible to fall frost damage than other standard varieties, and is sus-

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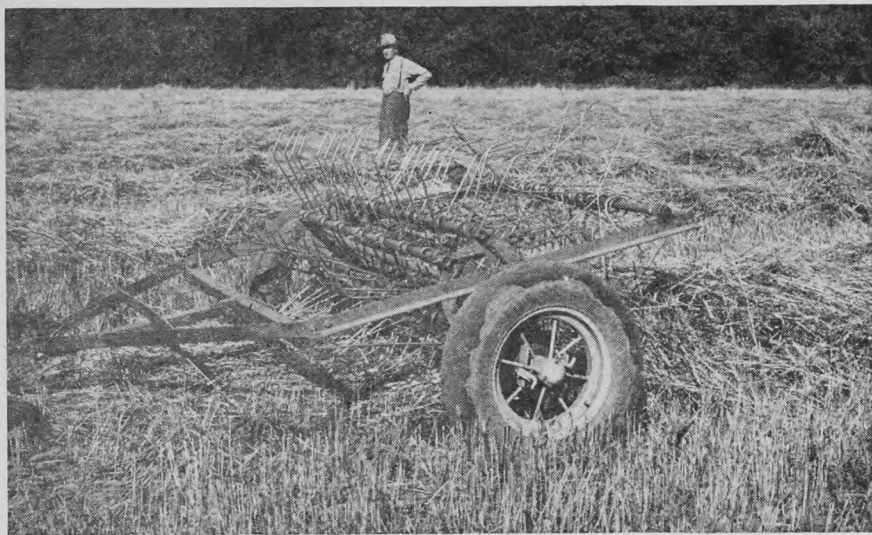
First, it quickly soothes those aching sore spots! Second, it counters the irritation that causes the pain with a grand, warming effect!

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AGAIN THIS FALL Westgo Swath Lifters Saved Thousands of Acres of Wet Grain



Note how swath is packed into stubble ahead of Lifter, thoroughly loosened where it has gone over.

This fall, thousands of acres of swath grain, beat down into the stubble and soaked by heavy rains, have been put into good combining condition with the Westgo Swath Lifter by farmers fortunate enough to have one. Thousands of acres have suffered heavy losses from delay, sprouting and bleaching, because it was impossible to meet the overwhelming last minute demand for this remarkable grain saver.

The Westgo Swath Lifter has been manufactured and sold by the West Fargo Manufacturing Co., West Fargo, N.D., for the past three years. There is no other machine like it. A cylinder of spring steel lifting forks, turning in the same direction as the wheels, passes OVER the swath and lifts and loosens it without throwing, twisting or tumbling. A few cleaning forks revolving in the opposite direction prevent any carry over.

It leaves the swath fluffed up on top of the stubble so sun and wind can dry it in a few hours. If it does rain again before combining, sprouting is greatly decreased. It is easily hauled by a small tractor, truck or car and while the recommended speed is 4 to 6 miles per hour, users have reported speeds up to 8 miles per hour without undue shattering.

Testimonials of users in various states and Canada carry the unbounded enthusiasm of farmers who have had potential big losses changed to near normal returns.

Each year the West Fargo Manufacturing Co. has built the number of Swath Lifters

they anticipated would be sold in normally scattered areas with wet fall conditions. In 1950, with above normal fall rains, the demand exceeded the supply considerably. This fall, with rain general throughout the entire Northwest, a flood of orders poured in by phone, mail and in person.

Efforts to greatly increase production were hampered by material shortages and allotment restrictions. Thousands of farmers had to be disappointed.

The experience of the past two years has shown that now is the time to prepare for next fall. Production of Westgo Swath Lifters will have to be restricted unless extra steel allotments can be obtained by showing signed orders from farmers.

Place your order now and have a Westgo Swath Lifter for the time you will need it. It is like insurance. If you don't need it, the cost will be no burden and when you do need it, it is there to save you from tremendous losses. Even under normal conditions there will be plenty of use for it in curing hay and speeding up combining. Don't be caught without one by another wet fall—see your dealer today or write:

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ceptible to loose smut which is its greatest weakness. For this disease, the hot-water treatment is the most practical treatment known and the Department recommends that "by treating the foundation seed, it should be possible to produce elite stock and subsequently first generation registered seed that is practically free from loose smut."

What Is Good Tillage?

THE Experimental Station at Swift Current deplors the tendency in this age of mechanization, toward speed, which, its officials argue, is desirable only as long as quality work is obtained.

"To date," they say, "no yardstick for quality has been set up for our guidance." They then proceed to set out a tillage yardstick of five points.

The five points of good tillage so outlined are level tillage, uniform depth, complete weed kill, trash conservation, and maintenance of soil structure.

A level surface after tillage helps at seeding time, and is secured by the proper adjustment of the tillage machines to avoid ridges or valleys. Uniform depth of cultivated soil is also a matter of adjustment and operation. Likewise, keeping all cutting edges sharp and avoiding misses by the use of a marker, cuts the weeds.

The conservation of trash and the maintenance of soil structure are matters of management primarily, rather than machine adjustment and maintenance. To conserve trash, the station recommends using disk implements at a minimum. Because a trash cover minimizes soil drifting and holds more of the rain where it falls, a cultivator-type machine or a rod weeder is always recommended for subsequent operations.

Maintaining soil structures means keeping the soil particles from breaking down so fine that the rain will not penetrate readily. Once the structure is broken down, much hard work is necessary to restore it. The two recommendations offered are: avoid high speed operation of disk machines, and never till dry soil.

Harvesting Potatoes

POTATOES will keep better and have better cooking quality if they are well matured when harvested. This is because as they approach maturity the skin becomes thicker, tougher and more firmly attached. From this, it follows that if potatoes are dug before they are properly ripened, injury is likely to be more common.

For winter storage and seed digging, says the Experimental Farm at Brandon, harvesting should be delayed as long as there is no risk of frost. If late blight is present in the tops, harvesting should be delayed until the plants are dead, to escape tuber rot. Let the tubers lie on the ground for one or two hours to remove excess moist soil, and for drying. Avoid storing diseased, cut, bruised or badly misshapen tubers, because they will tend to infect the rest of the stored potatoes.

A root cellar where adequate ventilation and proper temperatures can be maintained is an ideal place. Store freshly dug potatoes preferably in clean bags or bins. Keep them in very moist air for the first ten to 14 days at a temperature of 50 to 60 degrees

F., after which the temperature should be reduced to 34 to 38 degrees F., and the humidity maintained at around 80 to 90 per cent. This permits bruised or cut tubers to form a protective covering against moisture loss and decay.

Handling Tough Grain

IF grain has been badly frozen, it's tough stuff to handle, but if properly matured and just wet from rain and snow, it can be helped out by many simple, inexpensive methods.

Some people in the Dakotas used to keep 50 or 100 dry posts, and would set ten to 15 of them up straight in a 12 by 12-foot bin. Don't cover the top end and they will carry a lot of moisture away. I have seen some people put in heated rocks. Stove pipes on end, that have been punched full of holes with about a four-inch nail, help carry away moisture.

My best experience was in 1924 or 1925, when we had a very bad year for tough grain. I had headed a lot of wheat that was loaded with Russian pigweed, besides being tough when cut. The Russian pigweed took on a clammy sweat that simply wouldn't let go.

Well, I dug the separator down low behind, so the damp stuff would travel, and we coaxed it through. I mixed it with old dry straw (which had laid over) to the proportions of 500 bushels of wheat and enough straw to fill a 1,000-bushel bin.

I pushed some half-inch rods into the pile so I could check it for heat. In the spring it was Number One, as pretty wheat as one ever saw.

I made a double-deck screen chaffer. One on top to carry straw over, and a coarse wheat sieve, about six inches below. Leave the top chaffer a foot longer, or more, so it will carry the straw away over the wagon box, or whatever you use. Hang the screen on a slant, and that will clean it well enough so you can put it through the fanning mill without any top screen.

Such mills as Bulldog, where you can let wheat dribble through the wind blast, will handle wheat fast, just to blow out the chaff. A chaffer can easily be made of boards with three-quarter-inch holes.

Leaving as much chaff as the elevators will handle while threshing or combining, I have found, will be very helpful.—Emil Lorentson, Alta.

Black Stem of Alfalfa

ONE disease for which there is not yet a recommended control measure is black stem of alfalfa. Earlier, Science Service Laboratories, Lethbridge, reported this disease widespread in the Lethbridge and Brooks areas of Alberta, and it is also reported as fairly common in the more northerly areas of the province by the Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology at Edmonton.

The disease is caused by a fungus which, like other fungi, develops well in cool, wet periods. Its symptoms are light brown to deep black spots on the alfalfa stems. Blackening increases progressively throughout the season, and is usually not severe in stands left for seed until late in the season.

On the leaves of the alfalfa plants, irregular dark brown spots are formed, and in severe infection these spots join together, the leaves turn yellow, and drop to the ground.

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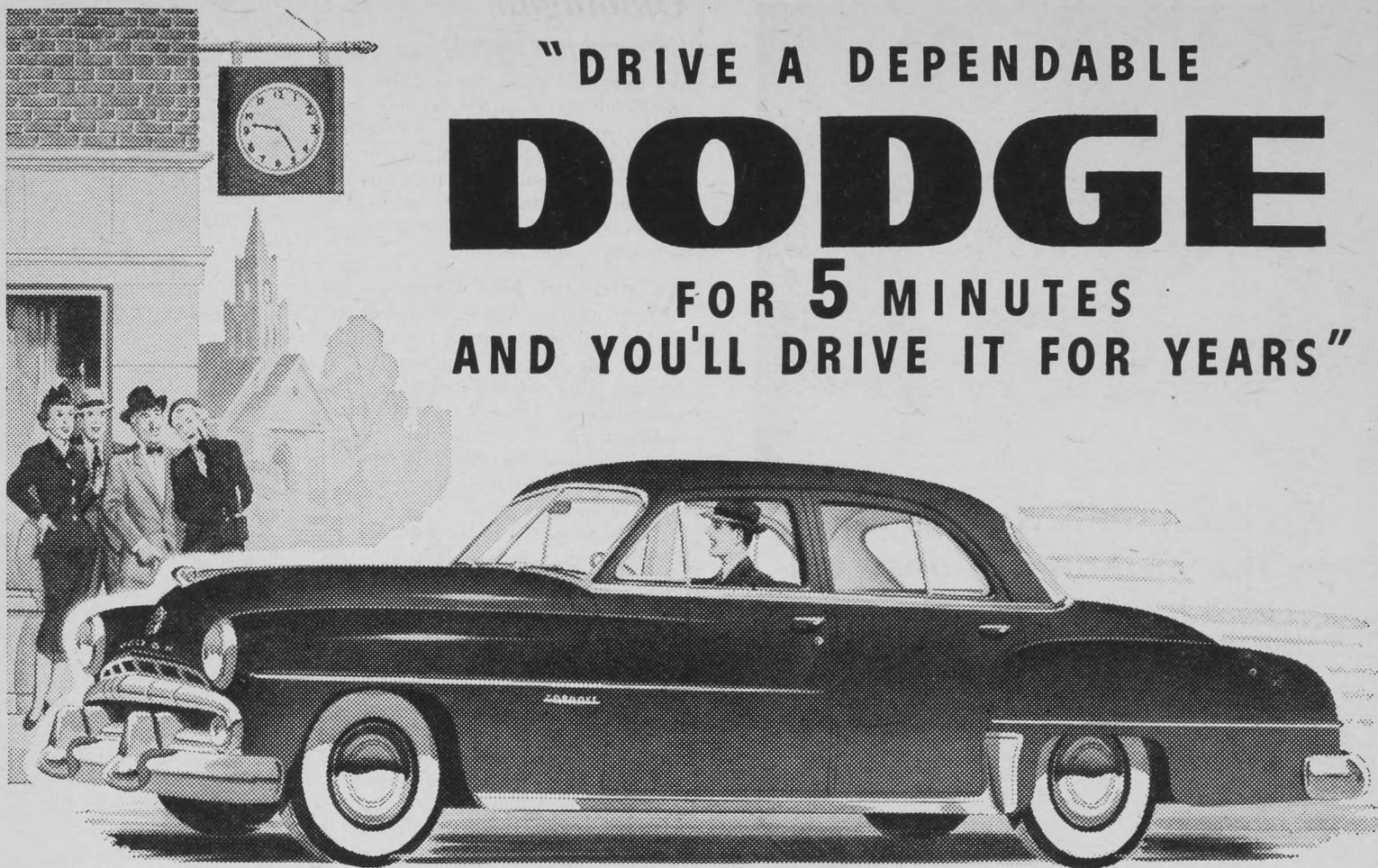
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To accomplish this dependability and

long life, Dodge has introduced numerous improvements in chassis, body and engine design. A few of these performance and economy features are listed below. It will pay you to consider carefully the benefits of these Dodge "standard equipment" items before you decide on any car.

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Electric Windshield Wipers Operate at Constant Speed — If you've ever had your wipers stop just as you accelerate to pass another car — cutting your vision to a minimum — you'll really appreciate Dodge constant-speed electric windshield wipers.

Oil-Bath Air Cleaner Has High Efficiency — All Dodge cars use a heavy-duty oil-bath air cleaner to protect moving parts from dirt entering with the air. Under test, this type cleaner was still 98% efficient after 2000 miles of driving. This was nearly double the efficiency of other air cleaners.

All Dodge Engines Designed to Use Standard Gasoline — All new Dodge engines are designed to operate at top efficiency and maximum performance with ordinary gasoline.

Automatic Choke Makes Starting Easier, Saves Gas — The Dodge automatic choke judges the amount of choking required as temperatures vary. Wasteful over-choking is avoided, starting is easier — particularly in cold weather.

Independent Parking Brake is Additional Safety Factor — Parking brakes on many cars operate on the foot brake rear drums. Thus, in case of foot brake failure, the parking brake also will not operate. The Dodge parking brake operates on a drum of its own fastened to the propeller shaft . . . is independent of the Dodge foot brake.

Bolted-On Fenders Save on Repair Bills — Damage to Dodge fenders does not necessitate major body repairs as both front and rear fenders are easily removable to facilitate repair or replacement.

Unique Fuel Filter Eliminates Chance of Clogged Gas Lines — The Dodge Oilite Fuel Filter is mounted permanently in the gas tank. It protects the entire fuel system — fuel lines as well as pump, carburetor and engine. It filters out dirt and water, is self-cleaning, requires no servicing.

Two-Way Protection Keeps Engine Oil Cleaner — All Dodge engines are equipped with a floating oil intake which draws only clean oil from just below the surface, preventing both surface foam and bottom sludge from entering the oil lines. In addition, Dodge Coronet and Regent models have a highly efficient micronic Oil Filter which removes particles of dirt too small to be screened out by ordinary methods.

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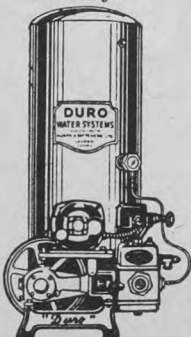
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Okanagan

Continued from page 11

dry out quickly. Because of this, some unofficial investigation is now being made by P.F.R.A. to determine whether water for irrigation purposes could be successfully brought from the Salmon River, to water between 2,500 and 3,000 acres by means of a projected irrigation scheme.

WE visited John Larson, a very prominent figure in the district, and a past president of the Board of Trade. Mr. Larson, incidentally, was looking after some interesting irrigation plots for Dr. J. C. Wilcox of the Summerland Experimental Station, and he pointed out the difference between the irrigated and non-irrigated plots of corn, as proof of the probable value of irrigation to the flats.

The project is based on the nearness of the flats to the Salmon River, which is about seven miles from the hill leading down into the valley near Armstrong. Between the river and the flats a series of small lakes would serve as reservoirs for spring run-off. The nearest was about 200 acres in extent and about 3½ miles from where we stood at the end of a road looking across to the valley of the Salmon. It was clear that the feasibility of the project would depend on the cost of pumping water from these lakes up to a reservoir to be constructed on a side hill above the flats, from which it could flow by gravity to the land of every potential user.

Mr. Larson called attention to the fact that this particular area has a very long frost-free season, lasting from the middle of April until the middle of October. He said he had planted potatoes as early as the middle of March. There was agreement between Messrs. Larson and Thomson that there is not a great deal of difference in frost-free period between this area and Osoyoos, at the lower end of the Okanagan Valley. The annual precipitation on the flats is approximately 16 inches, which, incidentally, is not very much different from that of Swift Current, Sask.

The soil on the flats is rather shaley; in fact, the hills adjacent seemed in places to be entirely of shale. The climate is too severe for the more tender fruits, but vegetable and canning crops could very well be grown under irrigation. Mr. Larson said, however, that the scheme was really intended as a general farming development project in which canning crops, pastures, dairying and hay crops would figure quite largely.

One of the advantages claimed for the Armstrong district is that there is almost no wind, and in winter very little snow-drifting, except up at Grandview.

An interesting development in the valley is a gradual increase in the acreage devoted to asparagus over the last few years. This year, perhaps the asparagus crop would utilize 50 acres, and it is grown almost exclusively under contract as a canning crop. A truck from the Kelowna factory comes up daily after the cutting has been made. Curiously enough, the crop is not being grown under irrigation or on the muck soil of the valley, but it appears that there are some places where the soil is especially suited to asparagus.

Of considerable interest to me was the fact that, though the Arm-

strong district is not big, it can boast of five co-operatives. The first one I saw was the Armstrong Co-operative Society. This Society operates the co-operative store, which was a new structure opened in February of this year, after a disastrous fire on the location immediately adjoining the present site. The new store is fully modern and operates on the self-serve plan. Before the fire, it did a business of nearly \$200,000 per annum, operating a shoe department, men's furnishings and grocery departments. At the present time, only a grocery store is in operation.

Next was the Armstrong Cheese Co-operative Association. This Association of 257 member patrons, did a business in 1950 in cheese, butter and fluid milk amounting to \$311,000. After paying an average of 75.3 cents per pound fat to patrons and a cash bonus of \$4,649 to cheese-milk and cream producers there was still \$230 which brought the surplus up to \$9,086 in addition to a general reserve of \$3,000. The Association operates on a revolving fund basis called Producers' Reserve, which at the end of last year amounted to \$31,480. Fixed assets of \$28,020 at cost have been depreciated to \$15,529.

President of the Cheese Co-operative is John Fowler, a purebred Jersey breeder near Armstrong, with a herd of approximately 30 head. Secretary-Manager is Joe Mullen. Incidentally, the flexibility of the co-operative idea is indicated by a funeral aid program within the Association. To take care of this fund, four assessments of 25c each per member are deducted from the first monthly returns of any producer.

Two other co-ops in Armstrong are the Armstrong Co-operative Seed Growers', and the Armstrong Farmers' Supply Co-operative Association. The latter handles feeds and building supplies, and the function of the former will be obvious to farmers everywhere. During the war years, and for a short time after, vegetable and flower seed production in British Columbia was booming. Today, Europe is back doing business at the old stand, and opportunities for B.C. growers are much more limited, especially in the export market.

One of the strongest poultry co-operatives in British Columbia is the Armstrong Co-operative Egg and Poultry Association, formed nearly 20 years ago. While several other poultry co-operatives have failed, this one has been maintained in a strong, healthy position, though the industry received a substantial setback when U.K. egg contracts fell off. Further details of this organization are being reserved for discussion in a future issue.

MOST people who have never visited the Okanagan Valley, and many of those who have, associate it chiefly with the highly intensified production of fruit in the lower, southern, irrigated half of the Valley. For the more diversified general farming areas to the north, no such alluring attraction is available, and yet as this article has attempted to show, a closely knit co-operative community of diversified activities has been built up at Armstrong, the achievements of which have been highly commendable. Indeed, experience at Armstrong seems to have proved once again that the idea and spirit of community is itself a powerful factor in the social and economic welfare of human beings.



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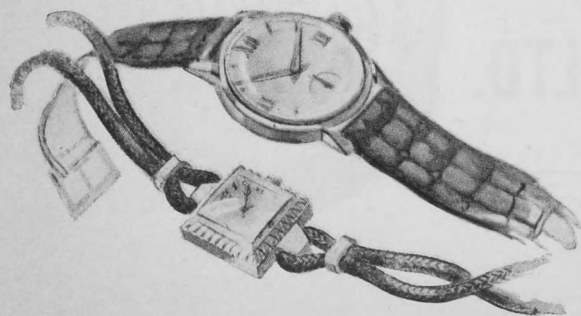
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Pioneer Preacher

Continued from page 14

quantities of fish must be put up for both human and sled-dog consumption, and many days spent in transportation from one camp to another.

THE little village was growing all the time—leather lodges springing up all about, and while the older children, Georgina and David, taught in the first Protestant schools west of Portage la Prairie, their brother John was stationed at Pigeon Lake taking care of the mission and the people in that district. Elizabeth taught the native women to knit and sew and tend small garden patches when vegetables had been planted. Once she had in her own care 23 infants when their dusky mothers contracted scarlet fever.

There was danger, too, for the Crees and Blackfeet were constantly at war, and during George's absence she rushed to the door one morning to find a Blackfoot brave dashing away on a stolen horse and leaving a dead cow behind. On another occasion, she and the children were weeding in a field when she became aware of 11 armed Blackfeet crouching in the tall grass nearby. But she refused to recognize their presence and ordered the others to ignore them, and no harm was done.

It was about this time that the Hudson's Bay Trading Company, due to the difficulty of freighting in their own supplies, advised the missionaries that they could no longer transport their goods in. This meant a trip across the prairies by horseback to Fort Garry where oxen and carts must be purchased to carry back a year's and more supplies for the people at Victoria, and the numerous missions scattered all through the West.

George was on such a trip when Louis Riel captured Fort Garry, and never having forgotten the kindness of Factor McTavish nine years before when he welcomed the newcomers into the Fort, George asked for 19 men to assist him in breaking into the Company fort to dislodge the rebel. But the settlers at Red River, fearful for the lives of their men held prisoners inside Fort Garry, would not consent to the proposed coup.

He was on his way back to Victoria when he learned of the dreadful havoc being caused in the West by the dread smallpox, and made the journey home in a record 19 days. The schools and churches were closed to discourage meeting places for the Indians and they were urged to disband and segregate themselves into family groups to lessen the spread of contagion. But already the disease was taking a heavy toll of life and the Indians came to the mission for aid. John was the first member of the McDougall family to fall ill with the disease after he had buried many hundreds of victims along the river bank and in home gardens.

Yet he made a fast recovery and when he was well again George sent him with a little band of hunters to the plains for fresh meat and buffalo hides so badly needed, for once the Indians fell sick their infected clothing and teepees had to be burned, and

they were naked and without shelter.

In John's absence the entire McDougall household fell ill, with the exception of Elizabeth who, day and night nursed the family. Little 11-year-old Flora was the first to die, and a week later was followed by her 14-year-old sister Anna. Sometime after that Georgina, the 18-year-old, was buried beside them at the foot of the garden, and before John had returned home, his own wife was gone too. Young David spoke for them all while digging a grave he cried "Oh Father, I find it hard to bury our own dead!"

A year later when George McDougall stood, not far from the trading-post at Edmonton, on a high hill overlooking the beautiful valley of the Saskatchewan River he heard in fancy "the sound of that advancing multitude which soon shall fill the prairies" and here on the hill that now bears his name, he built the little church still standing today, a museum filled with articles of historic value, including the first piano to be seen in the West brought at great effort by ox-cart from Fort Garry.

Two years after he had founded the beginnings of the great city to-be George McDougall turned his attention to the Stoney Indians west of Calgary and in 1873 he established a mission nearby naming it Morley. Elizabeth once more started house-keeping in a remote and isolated district.

This was their last move, although only a few hours before his death three years later, George discussed with his son John, his proposed new mission to be located at Oldman River.

IT was in the winter of 1876 that father and son in company with a young nephew and two Indians started on a buffalo hunt for fresh meat. Toward evening the weather grew stormy and George rode on ahead promising to have a hot meal in readiness at camp when the others arrived. They never saw him alive again. Twelve days later his frozen body was found where he had obviously known that he was going to die and he lay down full-length with hands clasped over his chest.

John reported of the burial—"We left him clothed as he had lived and walked last in Western costume" fringed jacket and trousers of buckskin and moccasins upon his feet. A fitting shroud for one of the most outstanding figures and founders of the Northwest.

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How prophetic the remark he made to John one day as they rode within sight of Blind River and neither saw nor heard any human sound. "You and I are alone today but we are the forerunners of millions who are coming."



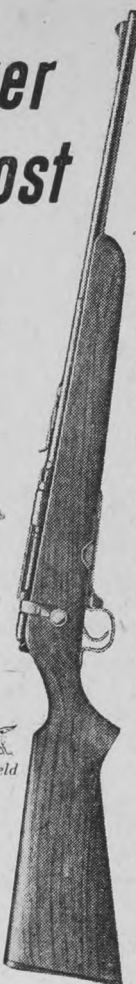
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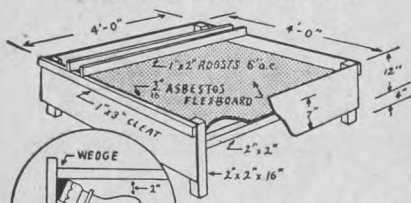
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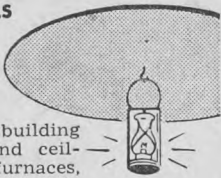
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Thornless Gooseberries

ABOUT 15 years ago, my husband obtained a variety of thornless gooseberry that proved satisfactory. The process by which it was developed was much the same as described in the July issue of this magazine in which an article appeared on the thornless gooseberry.

For about five years my husband cultivated it and compared it with another variety which was also thornless, and decided to eliminate the smaller variety, which grew bushes like trees in shape—one main stalk, with limbs branching out. The variety we kept proved so satisfactory that we tried to interest commercial horticulturists, both provincial and federal, but they brushed aside our discovery. Through the years we have grown this gooseberry, we have learned several things which would probably be of interest to those interested in gooseberries.

1. It will withstand severe cold. When we lived in township 62 of Saskatchewan, we saw the mercury dip down to 70 degrees below zero on a few occasions, and the following spring they budded and bore fruit as usual in the summer.

2. If allowed to grow among weeds and grass, and on poor soil, it will develop some thorns in its effort to survive in the wild state of environment. In good soil, with a reasonable amount of moisture, it has no thorns.

3. It grows up from the ground in a cluster of small limbs, rather than tree-shaped as did the other variety. Each one of these limbs is loaded with fruit from the ground to the tip, on the underside of the limb, where the fruit is not visible as one walks along beside it. The fruit may be stripped off each limb, as easily as milking a cow.

4. It leafs out early and soon blossoms, and the fruit is ready to use green the first week in July in north Saskatchewan, and some two or three weeks earlier in southern Manitoba.

5. Used while green as sauce, jam or jelly, these gooseberries require no more sugar than any other small fruit. However, if allowed to ripen, they are delicious raw, but when cooked require an enormous amount of sugar. In fact, we were never able to sweeten them sufficiently to be edible when cooked, after they had reached the ripening stage. They are purple when quite ripe, but may be enjoyed raw as soon as they have turned clear in color instead of green.

6. They are easily propagated by bending down a limb in summer and covering it with dirt, allowing it to remain there where it takes root, until fall. Then it should be cut from the parent stalk and set where desired, or heeled in to be set out the following spring. Equal success is obtained by setting out these rooted plants in spring or fall, so long as they are not budding when set out in spring.

7. We have sold these plants to various people from Ontario to British Columbia. From only one person, living in New Westminster, have we had any unfavorable reports. From this, it would seem they are satisfactory in all the prairie provinces.—Mary K. Tennis.

Crown Rot of Iris

MANY iris plants are lost from time to time because of a fungus disease which develops at an unusual time of year, and causes the crown of the iris to rot. This disease is called the botrytis crown rot of iris, and the first evidence of its work is likely to be found in early spring when one watches the young fans and notices that the young fans fail to develop. They may soon be covered with a greyish-brown felt-like growth which is really the spores of the fungus. The interior of the rhizome itself turns to a dry, odorless, felted rot, buff or grey in color. This is the only time when the disease can be readily recognized, and the only thing to do is to dig out the infected plants and destroy them.

It is true that some of the fans in the same clump will grow normally, but the disease is present and not only will the remainder of this plant be affected the following winter, but the infection will spread. The fungus is very active in the spring when the weather is cool and wet, and spreads very little when it is warm and dry. If the rhizomes are lifted in July or August, there will be little sign of the disease.

The most effective way of combating this crown rot is to treat the rhizomes when they are transplanted, and to plant them, if possible, in new soil. Sulphur, copper sulphate and formaldehyde are unsatisfactory. Several mercury compounds are effective. Mercuric chloride in a one per cent solution in which the rhizomes are soaked for 30 minutes and planted at once, is satisfactory, but corrosive sublimate is extremely poisonous and must be used with care. Mercurous chloride, or calomel, at one ounce per gallon of water, makes a white sus-

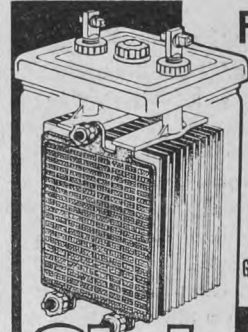
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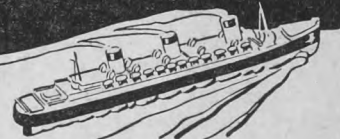
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pension into which the rhizomes should be dipped to get as heavy a coating as possible on them as well as on the roots and base of the leaves. Planting should follow immediately. Organic mercury compounds can be used successfully if the directions are carefully followed.

Pruning Evergreen Trees

EVERY precaution should be used in pruning native trees and shrubs on the prairies, especially evergreens. Removing too many branches may encourage the development of sunscald on the south and southwest sides of the tree, which will not only completely kill the bark, but encourage diseases and insects to gain entry into the trunks. Trunk injury is also more likely to occur if the lower branches are removed, and the cultivator used too close to the main stem. The soil dries out more readily.

The Forest Nursery Station Indian Head, Saskatchewan, recommends the pruning of evergreen trees only for the following specific reasons:

1. Where two leader or topmost twigs are developing, the weaker one should be shortened, preferably at the beginning of the growing season.

2. An evergreen hedge should be pruned once a year, toward the end of July or early in August, and the top should be kept slightly narrower than the bottom.

3. Judicious pruning may do much to bring evergreen trees back to a pleasing and symmetrical form, if they have been injured or damaged, or have grown in a misshapen manner. Occasionally, it may be necessary to train a side branch to become the leader, by staking it.

It has been observed at the Forest Nursery Station that Colorado Blue spruce do produce secondary branches on trunks from which original branches have been removed.

New Propagation Methods

THE Dominion Experimental Station at Saanichton, B.C., calls attention to a new method of propagating shrubby plants and trees, reported from Harvard University and successfully used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the famous Arnold Arboretum.

A feature of the method is the ease with which woody plants can be propagated. Needed materials are a plastic film called polyethylene (a new product), a sharp knife, some moist sphagnum moss, and a little rooting powder.

Procedure is given as follows: In June or early July, select a shoot of the previous year's growth about the size of a lead pencil. Make a clean cut of three to three and one-half inches lengthwise down the middle of the stem, but do not break the twig while doing so. Dust the cut surfaces with rooting hormone powder. Place a handful of moist sphagnum moss in a ball around the cut stem, and a little between the cut surfaces to prevent these from growing together again. Wrap a sheet of polyethylene about ten by ten inches around the moss to keep the latter securely in place. Tie at the top and bottom and turn the top end down to shed water. Support the twig and the ball of moist peat on it, with a stake, if necessary. Cut the rooted twig away after the leaves fall, in the case of deciduous species.

How Good Celery Was Grown

OUR farm papers give us so many helpful ideas, I'd like to tell how I grow celery, so that it may help others.

I grow the green Utah celery and plant the seed in a flower pot or can early in the spring. When about half an inch high with two leaves, transplant it into flats. My men having discarded an old (stock) galvanized water tank with countless holes in the bottom, making good drainage, I had them put rich earth and manure in it, mix it well, and fill a little over half full. This we watered till it was wet to the bottom and left it to settle three or four days. That way the tank is half full. Then carefully cut the plants from the flat, trying not to disturb the soil around the roots, and transplant into the tank five inches apart each way. Water a little to close any air pockets. Shade the plants for a few days and water them well once a week. As the plants get older, about eight pails of water are needed at a time. As it grows the leaves shelter the soil, so it won't dry out quickly. By September 1 we had the grandest celery anyone could wish for. On frosty nights it must be covered.—G. M. Carman, Alta.

Know Your Shrubs

by DR. R. J. HILTON,
University of Alberta

The Dogwoods

IT certainly is a shame that our prairie climate just won't allow us to cultivate some of nature's most beautiful plants. The flowering dogwood and its beautiful cousin, Nuttall's dogwood, are good examples. Many people don't realize, however, that nature can balance her gifts quite fairly, if we take the trouble to learn and assess those gifts. Do you know the dainty little Bunchberry of our northern bush? It has a single little four-petaled creamy flower, that is about four inches off the ground and that develops into an attractive bunch of bright red berries. This is a diminutive member of the large dogwood plant group, and it would be of interest in any semi-naturalized plant group, particularly if native shrubs were featured.

The commonest and most useful hardy dogwoods are the Red-osier dogwood and the Siberian (or Tartarian) dogwood. The former is native over most of Canada and spreads by underground stems. It grows to five or six feet, is fairly open and spreading in habit and usually has dark red branches with noticeable but not very showy white flowers and white berries. A variety of this dogwood has branches with distinctive yellow bark instead of the usual red. The habit of spreading by stolons will be objectionable in many locations; and in that case it is suggested that the Siberian dogwood be used, for it is very similar in habit, size and bark colors, but does not spread so readily.

Some golden-leaved varieties of these dogwoods exist, also some with variegated yellow-and-green leaves. These characteristics, with their extreme hardiness, freedom from pests and wide adaptability to shade or bright sun, combine to make them much-used shrub favorites in prairie gardens.



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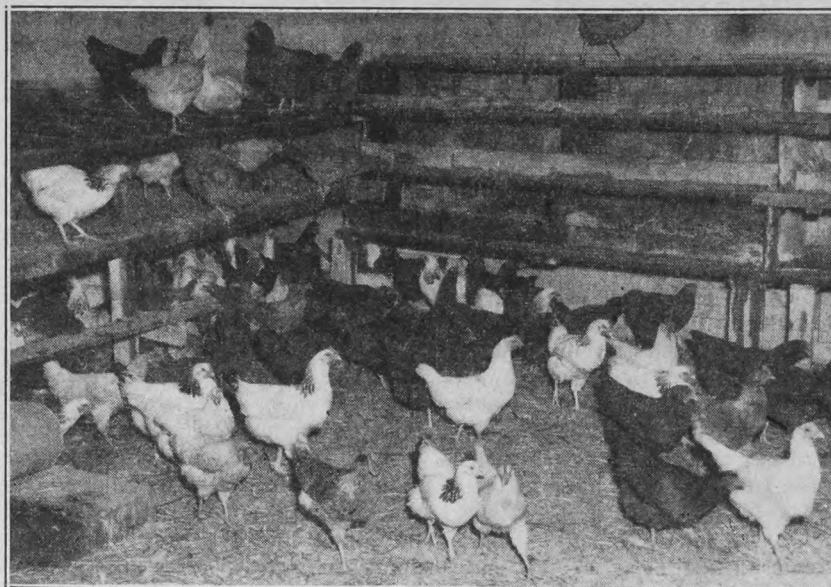
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POULTRY



Part of the flock belonging to Mrs. E. Cimon, Donnelly, Alberta.

Housing Pullets

MOST pullets today have the inherited capacity to lay large numbers of eggs, and if fed and managed properly will produce well. Good management practices at the time of housing will do a great deal to ensure high production throughout the laying year.

The first matter to consider in the fall is cleaning and disinfecting the laying house. This involves the removal of all litter, including that which is caked on the floor, roosts, nests and dropping boards.

After the litter has been removed the interior of the house and the equipment should be scrubbed. A mixture of one pound of lye in 40 gallons of water makes a satisfactory solution for cleaning. The walls should be rinsed with clear water and white-washed, with a good commercial disinfectant added to the whitewash.

Pullets require plenty of fresh air during the first few days of confinement, though drafts must be prevented if colds are to be avoided. Feeding fish oil or a green feed, such as leafy alfalfa, is a good precautionary measure.

A balanced ration is essential if production is to hold up well. Pullets should be so fed that they continue to gain in weight until well into their first laying year. If the birds come into production quickly and lose weight, they may go into a partial molt and go out of production.

When to Market Turkeys

THE age at which turkeys are marketed has an important bearing upon the grade received. They normally must reach full maturity before they develop a good layer of fat under the skin. Management practices and feeding methods will vary these ages slightly, but the general run of broad-breasted bronze hens will not reach this stage until after they are 25 weeks of age; toms will take 27 weeks.

The amount of feed required to produce one pound of gain will increase rapidly after birds reach full maturity. At 20 weeks of age the average broad-breasted bronze turkey will require just under five pounds of feed to produce one pound of gain; at 24 weeks the figure is 6.3 pounds; at 28 weeks 8.6 pounds, and at ten weeks almost 10.5 pounds. The additional weight

on older birds will not usually pay for the extra feed required.

Turkey poult purchased before the middle of April will usually be ready for market in early November. Carrying these birds for the Christmas market, early December, will require approximately 30 additional pounds of feed with an expected weight increase of two to 2½ pounds in body weight. With the feed worth about three cents a pound this added body weight is costing around 40 cents a pound, not too profitable a proposition.

Turkeys should be marketed after they reach maturity, and take on sufficient finish to reach top market grades.

Keep Paying Birds

CULLING should begin when pullets are housed in the fall. It has been reported by A. P. Piloski, poultryman at the Indian Head Experimental Farm that a hen in a flock laying at the rate of 50 per cent, will consume 95 pounds of feed a year; a non-laying bird will consume about 65 pounds. Removal of the non-laying birds will have an important effect on production costs.

The most desirable birds have bright red combs and wattles and smooth plumage carried close to the body. The abdomen is soft and pliable; the legs and beak show yellow pigment; the birds are in good flesh and are quiet and easy to handle. Birds to be discarded are those with such deformities as crooked backs, legs or beaks, as well as those showing long, narrow skulls, heavy, wrinkled faces with overhanging brows or loose feathering about the head and body.

Culling should continue throughout the laying period. Birds which develop pale or yellowish heads or those which go lame or lose weight should be removed, as they may harbor disease or parasites. Birds which spend too much time on the roosts are not likely to be profitable.

Healthy birds that are not laying can be detected six or eight weeks after the birds go into the laying house. They will still have a large amount of yellow pigment in their legs and beaks, while the good producers will have lost all the pigment from their beaks and some from their legs. The vent of the non-producer will be small, puckered and dry, skin and fat over the abdomen will be hard,

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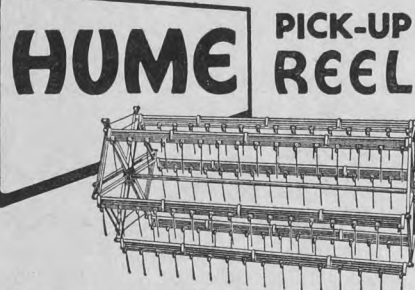
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and the spread between the pubic bones and keel will be small.

Poor producers frequently stop laying in June or July and start to drop their feathers. The early or the slow molters are usually poor layers.

Preferably, broody hens should be taken out of the flock at once, but if they are retained they should be placed in an airy coop with plenty of good feed. If they remain broody, or fail to come back into production they should be discarded.

Nutritional Litter

FOR a long time it was taught that sanitation demanded the frequent cleaning of poultry houses. Increasing costs and labor shortages, especially during the war, led to the use of floor litter for a much longer period of time. It was found that birds did not suffer any adverse effects.

Experimental work now indicates that not only is deep litter sanitary, but it also provides certain valuable nutrients.

The management of built-up litter is not just a matter of allowing it to accumulate. At the beginning it should be four to six inches deep, and additions made as it becomes damp or caked. To encourage the growth of micro-organisms it should be allowed to attain a depth of six to 12 inches, and be stirred frequently. This mixes droppings and surface accumulations with materials below and permits chemical and biological activities.

Moisture and heat are necessary. Droppings and some splashing around the fountains provide sufficient moisture, and the biological activities in the litter usually generate enough heat to maintain the organisms present.

Once established under good conditions built-up litter can be maintained indefinitely, says T. M. McIntyre, Experimental Farm, Nappan, Nova Scotia. The moisture is absorbed, and heat generated by the micro-organisms helps keep the floor dry and the litter warm. Micro-organisms favored by this method of litter management not only produce nutrients such as vitamin B12 in the litter, but also seem to have an adverse effect on harmful organisms in the litter.

Fattening Market Cockerels

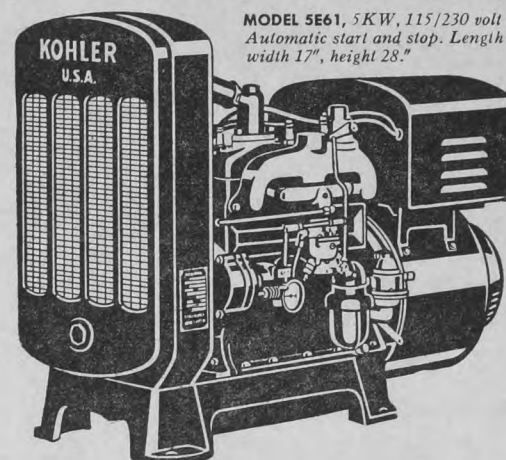
POULTRY producers can make additional income from cockerels by fattening them in the fall before marketing. Work at the Brandon Experimental Farm indicates that this is largely due to improved finish which qualifies the birds for higher market grades.

Two essentials of successful fattening are: (1) to confine the cockerels, and (2) to supply feed in a digestible form. A mixture of equal parts of ground wheat, oats and barley has been found satisfactory. The ground oats and barley are improved by sifting to remove a portion of the hulls.

Ground feeds can be improved by soaking them in skim milk or buttermilk for 12 hours before they are fed. If milk is not available water will do, if four or five per cent by weight of meat meal is added to the mixture. The feed is in the form of a batter and the birds are fed twice a day.

Cockerels should be starved for 24 hours before being started on the fattening ration. Feed sparingly at the start, and increase gradually. Feed should be left in the trough for 20 minutes.

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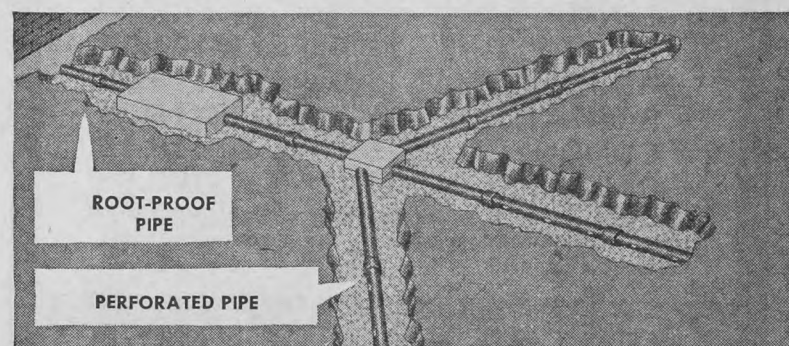
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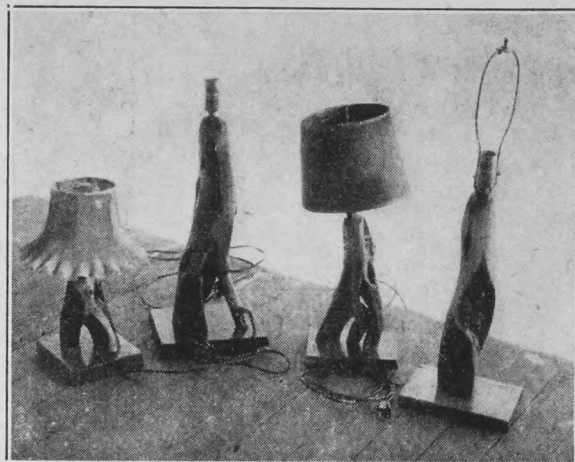
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Diamonds in Your Fence Posts

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any aptitude for
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by KERRY WOOD

*An assortment of dia-
mond willow table
lamps, featuring dif-
ferent formations of
this unique wood.*



MANY a fence post in western Canada is fashioned from a piece of wood that would grace a millionaire's home! Since earliest settlement times, the favorite native post-wood has been hefty pickets of willow, a common stream-side shrub growing throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. And a goodly percentage of pickets used in western fences show evidence of that weird and wonderful freak formation called "diamond willow."

Most western farmers know this oddity from personal experience with fence pickets, having exclaimed over the diamond-shaped depressions so generously indented in the grey-barked willow wood. We don't know too much about the reason for this strange

suddenly, you will come upon a stand in which every stalk of willow is liberally indented with the peculiar hollows of rhombic shape. Once you have located a single clump of diamond willow, it is more than likely that nearby shrubs will also be sporting the same freak growth.

Select a piece of this interesting willow, take a knife and peel off the outer bark—which is a rough textured bark of neutral grey color. Once the knife clears the barks and lays bare the wood underneath, you'll discover that the sapwood is creamy white in hue, while the inside part of the diamond hollows show the rich red color of heartwood. The contrast is vividly attractive, while the flowing line of the diamond shapes provide a beautiful and artistic design which never fails to delight and interest those who are fond of lovely woods. Great varieties in colors are obtainable, by working with green, semi-dry, and dead wood. When varnish is applied to the sanded surface of the willow, the color contrasts become even more noticeable.

Practical readers may ask: What good is this diamond willow?

There are numerous western farmers who know the answer to that. Many a sheep herder has carved a walking stick out of the beautiful diamond willow while watching his flock from a hilltop.

Years ago during the depression, an old gentleman living in Edmonton earned his living by making novelties out of diamond willow. A friend of mine has several examples of the old craftsman's work: a beautiful table lamp, a pair of matched candlesticks, a candy bowl with a piece of creamy willow sapwood arched over the diamond-hollowed bowl of reddish hue. Lesser items such as paper knives, novelty spoons, and pen-holders were also made by the elderly wood carver. These items are on display and in use in my friend's living room, where they never fail to evoke comment from every visitor.

Then there is another story concerning a farmer living near Pigeon Lake, Alberta, who became interested in the freak willows alongside a creeklet and started to make rustic chairs and furniture out of the colorful wood. Finally, he constructed himself a bedroom suite of diamond willow—and an American tourist is reputed to have offered the farmer \$1,000 for that unique and lovely set of furniture.

These examples awakened my own interest in the wood, so one winter's day I carried an armful of diamond willow home to my basement bench.



Diamond willow in the growing state.

pattern of shapes. However, one piece of the picturesque willow was sent to the famous Arnold Arboretum, and brought out the information that the diamond depressions are caused by some form of canker fungus.

The wood affected is the common willow of the West, scientifically labelled *Salix mackenzianna*. This is a shrub form of willow, growing abundantly on the banks of rivers and creeks, around the shores of sloughs and lakes, in coulee hollows and lowlands of the prairies. It attains a trunk dimension of six or more inches, though three and four-inch diameters are much more plentiful. The shrub usually grows to a height of around 12 feet, with as many as 30 stalks springing from the same root.

Not every piece of western willow shows the diamond-shaped depressions, however. In fact, you may search through hundreds of clumps and never notice any sign of the odd formation in the whole batch. Then,

It was a pleasure to work with the soft and graceful wood, every piece seeming to possess its own individual charm and suggest a form by which its fascinating beauty could be best displayed. The time was prior to the Christmas season, so many a yuletide gift was fashioned out of willow in my home last year. For my late father there was a smoker's stand, plus a diamond willow walking stick and a bedside table for his beloved books. My wife was delighted to receive a diamond willow end table, a magazine rack, and a favorite picture framed in the beautiful wood. The children were given a variety of willow-framed pictures for their rooms, plus small table lamps of the twisty wood. In all, over 40 items of diamond willow were turned out for Christmas gifts, the hobby work providing a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction during spare time. Since then, many family friends have received diamond willow items from us to mark special occasions: on the willow-wedding anniversary, for example, as well as birthday and marriage gifts. In every instance, the peculiar oddity of the wood and its graceful beauty has pleased the recipients of these willow gifts.

IT seems to me that here is a raw material that is being badly neglected, for diamond willow thrives all over western Canada. With the exception of a few farmer-hobbyists who have worked with the wood during winter evenings, diamond willow is practically unknown to western city-folk and to Canadians elsewhere. This willow could provide us with a fascinating new industry—novelties and small furniture made of diamond willow, not only to grace our own homes in town and country, but to feature for the tourist trade. Objects made from this distinctive wood would provide tourists with a pleasant change from the common ceramic bric-a-brac souvenirs and plastic novelties now on sale from coast to coast.

And think of the pleasurable side of such an industry. For example, I can guide you down to the shores of a beautiful little lake where nine varieties of waterfowl nest every summer, where sora rails whistle among the reeds and snipe whicker overhead, with hermit thrushes fluting melodiously from the ravine behind the willow stands which will provide us with our factory's wood. Gathering raw materials for industry in such a setting would certainly make pleasure out of labor!



An end table with legs and cross-bars made from wood which might have become a farmer's fence post.

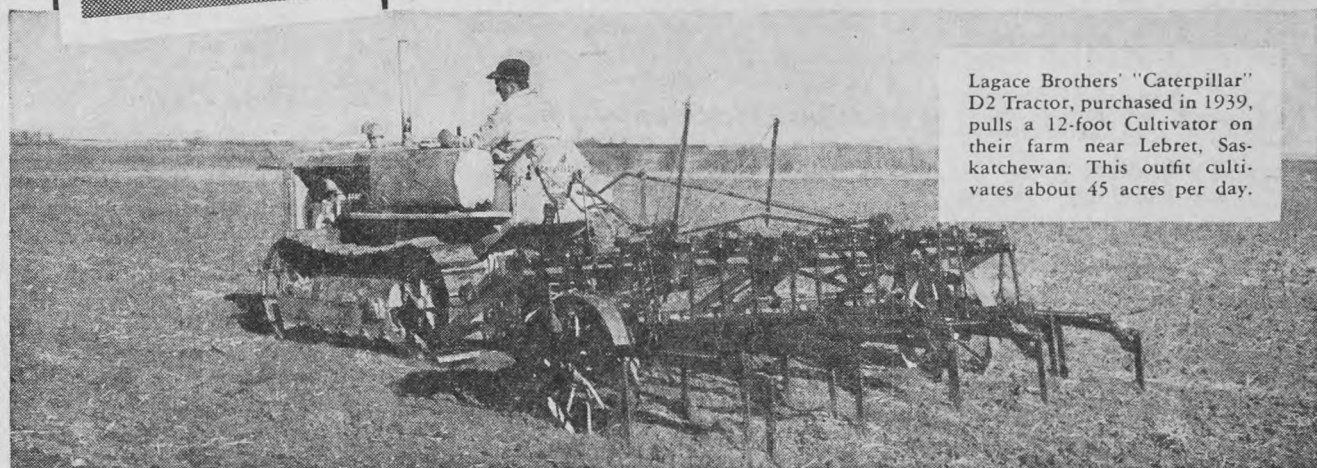
"Cat" D2 Tractor breaking brush land. Shown pulling a 24" breaking plow in second gear. Burns about 1 1/4 Imperial gallons of 19¢ Diesel fuel per hour on this job.



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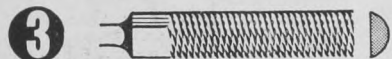
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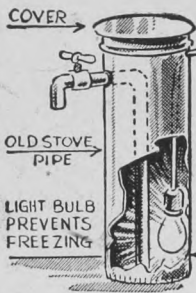
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Prevent Pipes Freezing

To keep your water pumps and hydrants from freezing in cold location, I use the method shown in the diagram. It is simply a section of old stovepipe slotted a little at the top so that it can be slipped over the hydrant. A small light bulb is fixed inside the stovepipe close to the floor, and I put a cover on the top of the stovepipe to hold in the heat. Only a small bulb is required because not much heat is needed to protect from freezing in a confined space.—I.W.D.



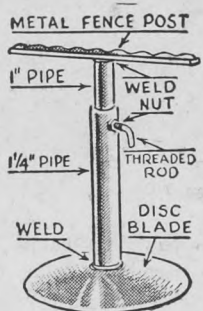
Soldering Straight Seams

When soldering long seams, and you want to do a neat job, place a strip of shipping tape along each side of the seam as it should be when completed. Then run the seam, after which the tape can be removed easily.—R.K.W.



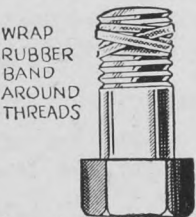
Adjustable Support for Shop

I made a handy adjustable support to use in the shop when I wanted to support a long rod for welding or other work. The base is made from an 18-inch disk blade. To this I welded a two-foot piece of 1 1/4-inch pipe, with another piece of similar length of one-inch pipe to telescope into the larger one. Then I welded a two-foot piece of steel post to the upper end of the one-inch pipe so that it would lie horizontally and make a rest for the work. To get an adjustment screw, I drilled a nine-sixteenth inch hole about two inches from the top of the 1 1/4-inch pipe then welded a half-inch nut over the hole, threaded and bent a five-inch piece of half-inch rod to be used in the welded half-inch nut for height adjustment. For greater convenience, two of these supports are handiest and are often used for carpenter work.—I.W.D.



Rubber Band Nutlock

An ordinary rubber band can be used to make an effective lock nut, as illustrated in the drawing. Wrap the rubber band tightly around the threads of the bolt by stretching the rubber while wrapping. Then turn the nut on. The rubber band will prevent it from working loose and do it more effectively than many so-called nut-holding devices. The idea will work even if the band is chewed up by the threads when the nut is screwed into place, but the particles of rubber will still be elastic and will do their job.—W.F.S.



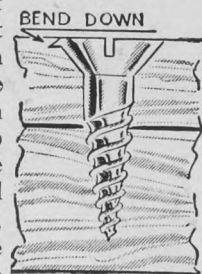
Prevents File Clogging

A simple way to prevent a file from clogging while filing soft metals such as brass, copper and the like, is to take a piece of chalk and rub it into the teeth of the file. It will be necessary to apply fresh chalk occasionally.—R.K.W.



Holding Wood Screws

Screws in wood may gradually work loose and come out, particularly if joined pieces of wood are subject to constant strain and vibration. The best preventive in my experience is to bend down the edge of the head with a cold chisel, as shown in the drawing. This serves as a brake or lock on the screw, and will make it difficult to remove even with a screwdriver. After the screw is solidly in place, the best place to make the bend is where the bent portion must move against the grain of the wood and not with it.—W.F.S.



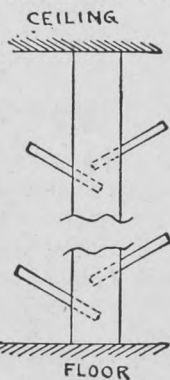
Home-Made Keyhole Saw

Here is an inexpensive idea for a keyhole saw which will cut steel, iron or wood. Use a 14-inch hacksaw blade with ten points to the inch. Grind off a portion of the blade as indicated in the diagram, being careful not to get the blade too hot, so that it loses its temper. Then, use a roll of friction tape and tape the opposite end of the blade thoroughly for six or seven inches, using as much tape as necessary to make the blade convenient to hold in your hand. If the tapered end of the blade has been tapered to a point, the point will penetrate through half-inch wood by merely tapping on the handle.—J.P.



Strong Balanced Rack

If heavy materials are to be piled on a rack attached to an ordinary wall, it may be dangerous, because of the one-sided pull created. The sketch shows a strong rack I have made and used successfully. Pipe, lumber, posts and bars have been piled on it, and it has never yielded in the least. To make one, bore holes in sturdy upright timbers at a slight angle, as indicated in the sketch. For shelving to hold smaller objects bore the holes at right angles, so the shelves will be horizontal and not sloping. Insert short pieces of pipe to fit nicely in the holes, fasten the vertical timbers both at the top and bottom, and good serviceable rack will result which is capable of holding a tremendous load. By placing shelves on both sides of the upright timbers and loading both sides, a desirable balance is obtained.—W.F.S.



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THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OF SAFETY

- 1 Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun. This is the cardinal rule of gun safety.
- 2 Carry only empty guns, taken down or with the action open, into your automobile, camp, and home.
- 3 Always be sure that the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.
- 4 Always carry your gun so that you can control the direction of the muzzle, even if you stumble.
- 5 Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.
- 6 Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.
- 7 Never leave your gun unattended unless you unload it first.
- 8 Never climb a tree or a fence with a loaded gun.
- 9 Never shoot at a flat, hard surface or the surface of water.
- 10 Do not mix gunpowder and alcohol.

Shooting instructor Jack Lacy gives a safety lesson to 12-year-old Roger Simonelli of New Haven. The essence of the advice is to be careful at all times; guns and rifles are deadly weapons, not toys.

B.C. Club Members Travel

MEMBERS of the 4-H clubs in Armstrong, Kamloops, Salmon Arm and Lumby banded together to charter a bus and attend the Pacific National Exhibition in Vancouver, and to see more of their province.

Twenty-seven club members, accompanied by district agriculturists C. M. Williams, Kamloops, and J. F. Caplette, Vernon, climbed aboard the bus one bright Sunday and headed west toward Vancouver.

The highlight of the day was a two-hour noon stop on the shore of beautiful Skaha Lake at Penticton. The next day was spent viewing such Vancouver wonders as the Lions Gate Bridge and Stanley Park.

Judging competitions to determine the provincial champions began on Tuesday. On Wednesday 450 club members from all parts of the province competed for the Pym Trophy and the B.C. Livestock Breeders' Trophy, awarded for high points in judging livestock classes.

Thursday was international day. About 150 4-H and Future Farmers of America members from Washington State attended the exhibition.

Judging continued on Friday and Saturday with judging by the Fraser Valley dairy, swine, poultry and potato clubs, and competitions in showmanship, hog carcass grading, potato grading and halter making.

Prizes were awarded on Saturday night. The bus load of travelling 4-H members won three of the six provincial championships. Winners were Bonnie Cavers and Gordon Moor of the Armstrong Poultry Club, Allan Schmidt and Bruno Schilling of the Barriere Beef Club, and Colleen Blackburn and Ella Matson of the Salmon Arm Clothing Club.

Other winners were Jill Pickering and Marie Cullen of the Cobble Hill (V.I.) Dairy Calf Club; Douglas Ormrod and Earl Johannes of the Langley Prairie Swine Club; and Douglas Gilmore and Irene Wright of the Richmond Potato Club.

Gordon Moor of Armstrong won the Pym Trophy, won last year by Bonnie Cavers, Armstrong, for the high individual score.

The Livestock Breeders' Trophy for three-member teams also went to

Armstrong. The winning team consisted of Jack Noble, Jack Parkinson and Dennis Lyster. Third place went to Allan Gill, Don Moor and Cornelius De Cook, also of the Armstrong Club.

The return trip was made on Sunday, eight days after it had begun. The members agreed that the trip had been a very wonderful experience, according to J. F. Caplette, Vernon district agriculturist, who told The Guide about the trip.

Veteran Voluntary Leader

VOLUNTARY club leaders across Canada have been with their clubs an average of five years, according to a survey recently reported by the Canadian Council on Boys' and Girls' Club Work.

W. A. Isaac, Consort, Alberta, has been with his local club very much longer—he has recently completed his 21st year as voluntary leader. This is a record for Alberta, if not for all Canada, according to G. S. Black, Supervisor of Youth Training in Alberta.

At a recent club meeting Mr. Isaac recalled some of his experiences as a club leader. He felt it was encouraging to watch the effect of club work on the agriculture of a district, but the greatest satisfaction to a voluntary leader, in his opinion, comes from working with young people and helping them to develop their talents.

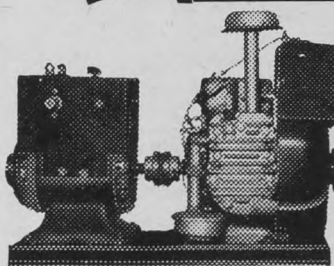
Tractor Maintenance Clubs

TRACTOR clubs are a new thing in Canada, but they appear to be here to stay. It is only three years since the first of these clubs was organized, but already there are 95 operating tractor clubs, with a combined membership of 1,425.

Over half of the clubs are located in Ontario. There are 50 clubs in that province, 33 in Manitoba and four each in Saskatchewan, British Columbia and New Brunswick.

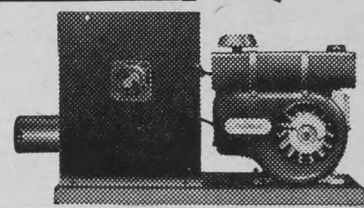
The purpose of the tractor maintenance clubs is to demonstrate to farm young people proper care and safety measures in the operation of farm tractors. Club members keep records of operating costs and receive instruction on how to make tractor adjustments and repairs.

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A 2,000-watt 32-volt D.C. light plant, fully complete as illustrated, that will provide faithful service for a good many years. Not too large but designed so as to take up only small space, yet powerful and dependable. Push button starting. Smooth running. Ball bearing equipped generator. Complete with popular 5 h.p. Clarke Gasoline Air-Cooled Engine. Reduced from \$295.00, now **\$195.00**

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Less engine, regular \$98.00. Special **\$79.00**

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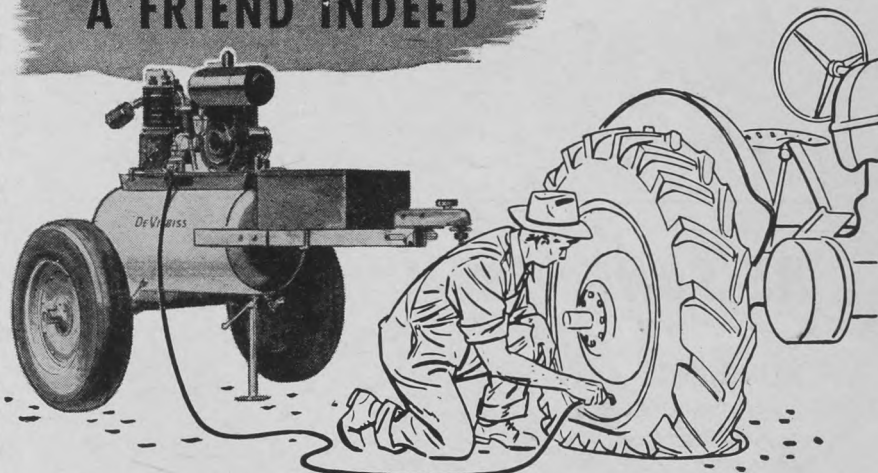
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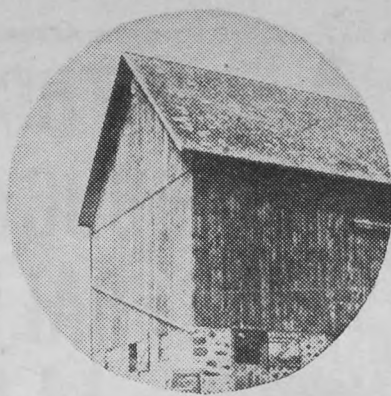
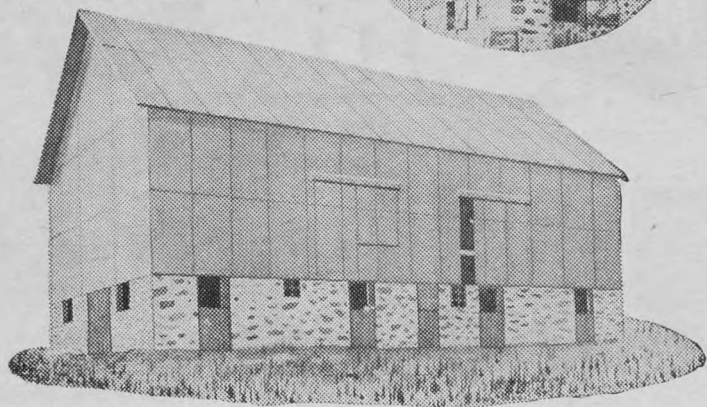
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where close-in shots are rare. A middleweight that expands perfectly. Plenty of speed and reach.

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when a bullet is needed that won't damage prized pelts. Powerful penetration without mushrooming.

"ALWAYS  DEPENDABLE"

• This feature is furnished monthly by United Grain Growers Limited

MONTHLY

Position of United States as a Wheat Exporter

Here in western Canada wheat producers frequently express uneasiness over the fact that the United States has become the dominating influence in world export trade in wheat. That country has displaced Canada as the chief source of supply for such wheat. Production there has expanded under the influence of prices prevailing during recent years, considerably higher than those available to Canadian producers. It almost seems at times as if the United States could crowd Canada out of the world's export market, and that only a combination of goodwill and good sense prevent it from doing so.

Both in Canada and in the United States it has frequently been assumed that as soon as possible there should be a considerable reduction of wheat acreage south of the border, and a reversion to a situation when Canada was the chief supplier of world needs. At the same time it must be admitted that for many years now the world has needed all that the United States has been able to supply, and in addition many countries have been dependent upon the financial ability and willingness of that country to finance wheat exports at a cost to the national treasury. Also, Canada is hardly yet able to take over the responsibilities formerly carried by the United States in this connection. Had the wheat crops of 1950 and of 1951 been uniformly of high grade milling wheat this country would now be seeking to displace the United States from its present pre-eminence. The time for that however has not yet come.

It is interesting to note that uneasiness on this account exists overseas as well as in Canada.

In a recent issue George Broomhall's Corn Trade News, published in Liverpool, devotes an article to this question. It urges that as soon as possible Canada and Argentina take over some of the wheat export trade now being done from the United States.

The article declares that the pattern of wheat trade has changed little since the war. United States still dominates the world wheat market, and "Canada's vast interest in the trade which shrivelled up but for the United Kingdom market." The Corn Trade News insists that Canada, Argentina and Australia can still produce surplus wheat much more economically than can the United States. That country, it fears, will not be willing indefinitely to continue what it considers to be an uneconomic program for wheat production and export. For political and philanthropic reasons the United States has been willing to maintain high domestic wheat prices and to encourage an export surplus which is only marketable because of the government's willingness to subsidize exports to the amount of one hundred and fifty million dollars or more annually. If economic reasons should cause any shift from that policy a danger is seen that world supplies might be endangered because Canada and other countries might not be ready to replace the United States.

The Corn Trade News points out that last year the United States slightly exceeded its export quotas under the International Wheat Agreement of

6,754 thousand metric tons. In contrast Canada exported under the Agreement only 5,196 thousand metric tons, falling short of its quota by 835 thousand metric tons.

The publication urges that export quotas for Canada and Australia should be progressively increased during the period of the Agreement. It expresses belief that it was largely due to the International Wheat Agreement that Canadian wheat acreage was reduced this year. That reduction, as well as some of the shrinkage in Australia, is also attributed in part to the present international financial situation, which makes many countries dependent upon the United States and tends to bolster its dominating situation in the international wheat trade.

The Corn Trade News is afraid, however, that the current International Wheat Agreement will terminate, concurrently with the termination of U.S. relief to Europe under E.C.A., at a time when importing countries will still be heavily dependent upon the United States. At that time they may be unable to resist pressure to sign another agreement which will commit them to continuing dependence for wheat supplies upon that country.

Millers' Grist in England

All wheat imports into the United Kingdom are made by the British Ministry of Food. In consequence millers are under strict regulation as to the percentages of different wheats which must go into their grists. The most recent regulation for mills in England specifies that a minimum of 25 per cent home grown wheat must be used. Then there must be a minimum of 25 per cent of Manitobas (which means of course western Canadian wheat). This is made up of a minimum of 15 per cent of Nos. 3 or 4 and a minimum of ten per cent of No. 5. That regulation gives interesting testimony both to the fact that No. 5 wheat can be used for milling, and also that such use must be limited if a satisfactory product is to be obtained.

One-half of the millers' grist must thus be made of home grown wheat and western Canadian wheat No. 3 Northern and lower. Millers are free to use more of such wheats if desired. They may also make up the remaining 50 per cent as follows: a maximum of 15 per cent Nos. 1 or 2 Manitobas; a maximum of ten per cent Australian or American white wheat; a maximum of 25 per cent of wheat from the United States, other than white, or any other kind of imported wheat. The restriction of use of the two higher grades of western Canadian wheat to 15 per cent is of course due to the scarcity of such high grade wheat during recent months. That percentage will no doubt be enlarged as soon as possible.

New Source of Damage to Grain

Wet harvest weather this year has developed a source of trouble in grain grading which has given little concern in past years. From certain areas many samples have been graded Rejected on account of mildew. The damage in such cases has been done by a black mold, of which there are many different types borne in the soil. Under

COMMENTARY

favorable moisture and temperature conditions, which vary as from one species of mold to another, these molds develop, living on dead tissues which become black.

This mold damage is something quite different from soil damage which results from simple adherence of soil particles to kernels of grain. The difference can be seen by washing a small sample of grain for a few moments in order to remove any soil particles. Black mold if it exists can then easily be seen on the kernels. The seriousness of mold can be demonstrated by placing a small quantity of infected grain on some paper in a saucer. If the grain is then well moistened and covered with a cup, and left for two or three days in a warm place, the molds will quickly develop further.

Damage from these molds is frequently experienced in European countries where wet harvests often impair the quality of grain.

Additional Wheat Board Payments Urged by U.G.G. President

Prompt release by the Canadian Wheat Board of proceeds of sale of last year's grain, or alternatively increased initial prices on this year's grain, were urged in a statement made by J. E. Brownlee, K.C., President of United Grain Growers Limited, after the September meeting of the board of directors of that Company. Mr. Brownlee's statement follows:

"Many western farmers urgently need more cash than they can obtain immediately from marketing this year's crop. Both initial payments and delivery quotas are low.

"That need can be quickly met through further distribution by the Canadian Wheat Board on last year's grain deliveries. Tens of millions of dollars remain to be paid to farmers in that respect as soon as accounts for last year's crops can be closed. If further delay in that connection is inevitable, a substantial interim payment should be made at once. At least 20 cents per bushel on last year's wheat deliveries could be safely paid.

"Alternatively needed cash can be supplied by a substantial increase in initial payments on this year's deliveries of wheat, oats and barley. These are very low in relation to prices at which such grains are now selling. On wheat, for example, there is a difference between initial prices and Class II export prices of nearly \$1.00 a bushel, and of 50 cents a bushel in respect of wheat sold under the International Wheat Agreement. That is a margin of safety for the government much wider than is needed under present conditions.

"United Grain Growers Limited asks the government and the Canadian Wheat Board to act immediately to put more money into the hands of western wheat producers."

Storage and Shipping Problems

New aspects of storage and shipping problems in connection with this year's grain have developed during recent weeks. When public attention was first directed to the problem, and a Transport Controller was appointed by the Government of Canada, it seemed to most people that the solution was fairly simple. Let the railways provide more boxcars at once, it was assumed, and country elevators could be cleared of remaining stocks of old crop grain to be shipped forward to terminals.

At the same time let a number of lake vessels be transferred from ore carrying to the grain trade, and terminal elevators at Port Arthur and Fort William would be cleared of stocks there, providing ample room for the new crop.

Harvest delays and bad harvesting weather have complicated the situation. A great deal of tough and damp grain has been threshed, and much of the crop has proved to be of lower grade than had been hoped for. The Canadian Wheat Board has an eager market awaiting large supplies of high grade grain from the new crop as soon as it can be put into export position. There has been an actual shortage of such grain. Instead of being able to use more lake carriers in the grain trade, the Wheat Board has not been able to supply cargoes at the Lakehead for all the boats available. Some of these, offering to carry grain, have had to be diverted back to the ore traffic. Stocks of No. 5, No. 6 and Feed wheat in terminal elevators at the Lakehead have been left there. It was considered sounder to do so than to move such grain forward to Eastern positions where it might be held for some time, impeding the flow of more readily marketable grain when available.

At the same time the railways have had to limit their holding of boxcars for shipments from the country to the Lakehead. To do otherwise would have been to fill up the terminal elevators with some of the low grade grain which has been congesting a considerable number of country elevators.

There is great contrast between conditions at elevator points. At some, where harvesting had been possible, large quantities have been delivered and shipped out again, leaving a great deal of space available. At some such points empty cars have been standing on the track, because there was not enough grain of a particular grade to make up a carload. At other points, still holding a good deal of carried-over grain, there have not been enough deliveries to make use of the limited space available. At some elevators full use cannot be made of available space, because different grades are occupying all the bins, which, however, are not completely filled. Still other elevators are filled practically to maximum capacity, mainly with grain carried over from last year.

It will be long before there can be any full assessment of the damage done by rains in late September. One thing however is certain, that they have intensified the shipping and storage problem by shortening the period before the close of navigation during which it had been hoped that heavy movement of grain might take place to and through the terminal elevators at the Lakehead.

Some of the present difficulties arise outside of Canada. A shortage in Great Britain of storage space, much of it occupied by domestic grain, has prevented shipments from Montreal being made although both grain and cargo space were available. Indeed on one occasion a ship returned from Great Britain with its holds still full of wheat which it had not been able to unload because of lack of a space in which to put the grain.

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is giving Thousands of car owners*

100% MORE PROTECTION

against the No. 1 battery killer!

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- AN EXCLUSIVE FEATURE OF THE WILLARD SUPER MASTER!
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OVERCHARGING is the No. 1 battery killer. Overcharging strikes directly at the grids—the lead-alloy framework which holds in place the current-producing active material. Overcharging corrodes the grids—fractures them—destroys their ability to retain active material—destroys their utility as current conductors.

But now you can have the protection of METALEX, a new grid metal discovered by Willard metallurgists and proved in thousands of cars since its introduction over a year ago. METALEX provides a full 100% more protection against overcharging—the No. 1 battery killer. Available exclusively in the Willard Super Master!



Improved Container
For Longer
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Quicker Starts!



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Willard Super Master

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WILLARD STORAGE BATTERY CO. OF CANADA LTD., TORONTO, ONTARIO

CANADA PACKERS LIMITED

REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

The 24th year of Canada Packers Limited closed March 28th, 1951.
(Hereafter the year is designated 'Fiscal 1951.')

Dollar Sales set a new high..... \$356,000,000.

This high was established by reason of advanced prices, not because of a new high volume.

Volume—that is, weight of product sold—was almost identical with the two previous record years, viz. fiscal 1945 and fiscal 1950.

The following table of volume and dollar sales for these three years points up dramatically the rapid price advances of the post-war period.

TABLE I

	Volume	Dollar Sales	Increase over Fiscal 1945
Fiscal 1945	1,698,000,000 lbs.	\$228,000,000	
Fiscal 1950	1,699,000,000 lbs.	\$327,000,000	\$ 99,000,000
Fiscal 1951	1,693,000,000 lbs.	\$356,000,000	\$128,000,000

Comparing fiscal 1945 with fiscal 1951,—

Volume is all but identical;

Dollar Sales are up 56%.

Note: 56% is the overall advance. Some products advanced much more, and others much less.

Example: The two 'heavy-volume' products are beef and fertilizer. Between March 1945 and March 1951,

Beef prices advanced 178%
Fertilizer prices advanced 40%

Profit after Depreciation and Income Tax was \$6,926,013

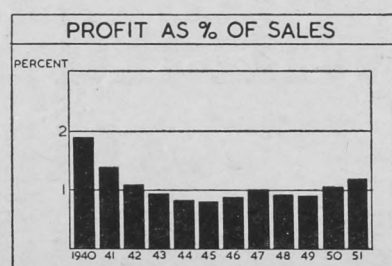
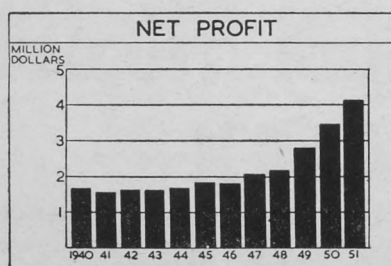
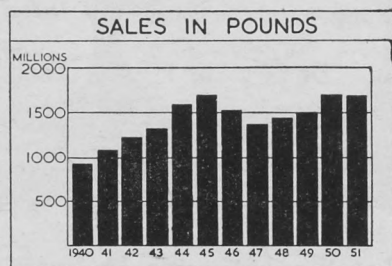
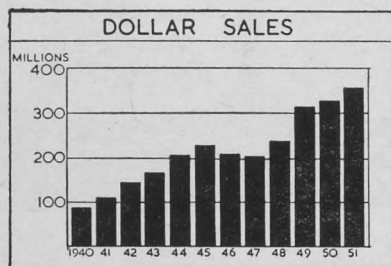
Out of this were set aside:

Bonus—to Employees of all ranks \$1,800,000
Inventory Reserve 1,000,000
..... 2,800,000

Net Profit \$4,126,013

This is the highest net profit in the history of the Company.

It is equivalent to 1.16% of Sales
and to 24.4¢ per 100 lbs.
i.e., just under ¼¢ per lb.



In the reports of this Company, attention has been called many times to the minute role which the packer's profit plays in the cost of meats. This is especially the case in periods of high prices.

During the year under review, housewives have paid for beef cuts from 60¢ to \$1.00 per lb. If the packer's profit—(of ¼¢ per lb.)—were entirely eliminated, the housewife would not even be aware of the reduction.

Throughout World War II, packinghouse operators had constantly in mind the economic events during and following World War I.

In World War I, food prices steadily advanced, and for eighteen months following Armistice Day, (November 11th, 1918), they continued to advance. Then, beginning July 1920, there set in an almost vertical decline in prices which robbed many of the packing companies (including some of the largest) of most of their working capital.

During the six years of World War II, the advance in food prices was less than in the four years of World War I. This was due to government controls. The instruments of control were price ceilings and subsidies.

In Canada, controls were continued for two to three years following V-J Day. During this period, food prices gradually advanced, and it was hoped that when controls were finally removed, cost-of-living prices would carry on approximately at the levels obtaining at the dates of removal. That this did not happen is no reflection upon those responsible for the policy. It was impossible to foresee the multitude of factors which affected prices during the post-war years—seemingly all of them tending to drive prices up.

Year by year, since decontrol, it has seemed that packinghouse prices must surely have reached their peak, and year by year they have continued still to advance. In Table II, below, Column 4 reveals the percentage of price advances as at March, 1951, compared with the pre-war base years 1935-1939.

TABLE II

	1 Price per lb. March 1935/39	2 Price per lb. March 1945	3 Price per lb. March 1951	4 Per- centage Increase 1 to 3	5 Price per lb. July 31 1951
Good Steers, live, Toronto	5.86¢	11.54¢	32.06¢	447%	33.07¢
Hogs, B-1 dressed, Toronto	11.80	19.42	34.98	196%	36.75
Lambs, live, Toronto	8.80	14.95	40.36	359%	36.00
Eggs, 'A' Large, Toronto	22.75	35.00	53.75	136%	69.00
Creamery Butter, Toronto	25.75	43.50	75.50	193%	63.00
Cheese, f.o.b. factory, Ontario	12.35	23.00	39.25	218%	37.25
Wool, B Super, Toronto	30.50	46.00	255.00	736%	115.00
Hides, Light Native Cow, Toronto	10.33	15.00	43.00	316%	37.00
Calfskins, Light, Toronto	18.16	23.50	87.00	379%	55.00
Edible Oils					
Cottonseed, Refined, Toronto	7.49	18.70	32.66	336%	21.88

The phenomenal advance in the prices of all the above list is revealed by comparison with the following:

As at March 1951 the increase in the cost of living index (1935-1939 equals 100) was	79.7%
Increase in price of all foods included in the cost of living computation	133.9%
Increase in general wholesale prices	141.8%

It is substantially accurate to say that in March, 1951—that is, at the close of the year under review—the complete list of packinghouse products stood at an all-time high. And at that date there seemed no sign of recession in any of the products listed in Table II.

However, four months later—that is, at the end of July, 1951—such a statement would be far from accurate.

The change of prices as between the two dates is revealed by comparing Column 3 and Column 5 in Table II.

It will be noted that the following products show advances—

Steers	from 32.06¢ to 33.07¢
Hogs	from 34.98 to 36.75
Eggs	from 53.75 to 69.00

In each of the above items, the advance was seasonal; that is, in July the product in question is in much shorter supply than in March.

The remaining products of Table II show declines. Certain of these declines were also seasonal. They were—

Lambs	from 40.36¢ to 36.00¢
Creamery Butter	from 75.50 to 63.00
Cheese	from 39.25 to 37.25

In the case of these products, March is a month of scarcity and July of relative plenty.

In a quite different category are the other products,—viz:

	Price per lb. March 28/51	Price per lb. July 31/51	Percentage Decline in 4 months
Wool, B Super	\$2.55	\$1.15	55%
Hides	43¢	37¢	14%
Calfskins (light)	87¢	55¢	37%
Cottonseed Oil, refined, Toronto	32.66¢	21.88¢	33%

These declines are not seasonal. They constitute a sharp break in the upward climb of prices, and must be recognized as a *possible* portent.

Note: On the day on which this report goes to press (August 22) prices of the first 3 items broke further to:

Wool	\$1.00
Hides	29½¢
Calfskins	47¢

At March 28th a strong 'statistical' argument could have been advanced that the prices of these four products were as firmly established as any others in the packinghouse list.

Is there an explanation of the break, common to all of them?

The answer is yes.

Phenomenal prices,

- (a) on the one hand stimulate production,—(obversely restricting consumption);
- (b) on the other hand bring substitute products into being.

The factor (a) operated especially in the case of edible oils. The high (government supported) prices of the last few years have resulted in a prospect of record production in U.S.A. this year, of Cottonseed, Peanut, and Soya Bean Oils. The only way to get these anticipated record quantities into consumption will be to reduce prices. This coming event has cast its shadow before it, in the sharp price break which has already occurred.

In regard to wool, hides and calfskins, the explanation of the break lies chiefly in factor (b). In the last two years, substitutes for wool fabrics and for leather have been more extensively used than at any previous period, and are still being developed rapidly.

It would seem that these same factors (a) and (b) will in time operate to bring down the prices of those other products of Table II which still remain abnormally high. At the head of the list is cattle. Cattle prices are still more than five times as high as in the base period. It is true,—

- (a) that the price of the base period was abnormally low,—also

Cold Climate Critters

Continued from page 13

tivity in mules is so rare as to be almost unknown.

The situation is by no means as hopeless in the cattle-buffalo cross. No fertile hybrid males have been located, and actually it was as late as 1941 before a male with buffalo blood in it proved fertile; this animal was only one-thirty-second buffalo. The females are typically fertile, and some fertile

bulls are now being developed by back-crossing hybrid cows to domestic bulls. Nonetheless, calf crops in cat-talo are small and fatalities are heavy.

Fatalities are very much more severe if domestic cows are mated with bison bulls, than if the cross is the other way. In one experiment 26 cows were in calf to buffalo bulls and only six living calves were produced. Furthermore, 16 of the cows were lost.

This is not a result of the hump rendering parturition difficult, as is

- (b) that human population in U.S.A. and Canada has advanced more rapidly than cattle population,—also
 - (c) that, when purchasing power is high (as at present), North American housewives have a strong preference for beef, over other meats.
- However, it is also true,—
- (d) that the chief meat-exporting countries,—Argentina, Australia, New Zealand,—are selling their surplus beef to the United Kingdom for less than one-third of the North American price for corresponding quality. Can two such widely separated levels for a basic food be permanently maintained?
 - (e) that an estimated record crop of 106 million hogs in United States is predicted for the coming hog year—October 1st, 1951 to September 30th, 1952.
 - (f) that in Canada, also, a sizable increase in hog production is predicted. It is unlikely that the expected deliveries of hogs during the coming Fall and Winter can go into consumption at present price levels.

If hog prices decline substantially in both countries, will not consumption be diverted from beef to pork meats—thus in turn weakening beef prices?

Note (1) The most important factor in the cost of producing live stock is the price of feed grains. In the four-month period (March 28th, 1951 to July 31st, 1951) feed grains have declined in Canada as follows:

	March 28 1951	July 31 1951
Oats, No. 3 C.W., Fort William, from \$1.01 per bu. to 78¢ per bu.		
Barley, No. 1 Feed " 1.51 per bu. " \$1.18 per bu.		

Note (2) In the Annual Reports of the last two years, there have been predictions (explicit or implied) that cattle prices were due for a near-by decline. Instead, they have continued to advance. The argument of the above section is a more cautious one. It is that the advance of cattle prices has been out of line with that of general food prices, and that at some time (possibly not long delayed) there must be an adjustment of cattle prices downward. With somewhat less force the same argument applies to lamb prices.

There is no suggestion of a calamitous break such as occurred in 1920-21. With the defence programme in the background, such a break is very unlikely.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

Directors have pleasure in stating that relations with Employees have been harmonious and co-operative. They are pleased to inform the Shareholders that this co-operation found expression in that most important of all objectives,—the steady improvement in the quality of the Company's products.

A record sum was set aside as profit-sharing, viz. \$1,800,000.

Of this sum, approximately \$1,300,000 was distributed as cash bonus, and \$500,000 set aside as the beginning of a savings fund in which all Employees will share equally.

Under the terms of the agreement with the U.P.W.A., there were three increases in wage rates based upon the advancing cost of living index.

Toronto, August 23rd, 1951.

J. S. McLEAN,
President.

Extra copies of this report are available and so long as they last, will be mailed to anyone requesting them. Address to Canada Packers Limited, Toronto 9.

often popularly supposed. Buffalo calves are born without a hump; it begins to appear at about two months of age and even then develops very gradually. The same is true of hybrid calves.

The problem is more complex; it appears that domestic cows pregnant to buffalo bulls develop an excessive amount of amniotic fluid. The cows may become so weighted down with this fluid that they cannot rise to their feet; the sac finally breaks and the

fluid is discharged. The foetus dies and may or may not be aborted. It is not entirely clear why this happens with domestic cows and does not happen with buffalo cows. However it poses a reproduction problem.

Heavy casualties of cows and calves, and infertility of the males are not the only problems in this experiment. Cattle and buffalo are, of course, different species and they are not prone to mate. It is regular practice on the part of hybridizers to raise



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buffalo bull calves in the domestic herd so that the young sire will become accustomed to domestic cattle and will mate with them. For the same reason buffalo females that are to be mated with domestic bulls are isolated from the buffalo herd at about six months of age and run in the cattalo enclosure.

In spite of these precautions there is still breeding indifference. To increase pregnancies one or two bulls are run with about ten cows, whichever way the cross is made. Even then the percentage of pregnancies is small, partly due to breeding indifference and partly due to the fact buffalo have a short breeding season and the cows will stay in season for three or four days; the bull follows one cow and ignores others.

At one stage a yak cross was introduced into the breeding plan. Yak—a type of oxen, common in the wild and domestic state on the Tibetan plateau—occupy an intermediate zoological position between buffalo and cattle. It was thought they might aid in obtaining fertile hybrid males. Crosses obtained from yak on domestic,

an extremely cold spell of weather the rate of gain of the Hereford fell sharply, while the decline in the cattalo lots was small. This suggests hardness is being gained.

Cooking tests were made on all lots when feeding was completed. The Hereford had excelled the cattalo in carcass grades, and they also bested them in meat quality, in the judgment of a taste panel. However, the meat from the cattalo was considered quite satisfactory, and it was felt consumers would not discriminate against it.

The heavy forequarters of the buffalo persisted in part in the cattalo, with the result that the Hereford had a larger proportion of high quality cuts. The dressing percentage of the cattalo was higher than the Hereford, however—62 per cent as compared with 59.

Most of the tests favored the Hereford over the cattalo, but there were extenuating circumstances. High quality Herefords were used. Cattalo would likely have compared more favorably with an average type of Hereford. At the same time no concentrated effort has been made to grade up the cattalo herd. High



The Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries, Alberta, is doing work on crossing Brahma cattle with domestic beef breeds.

domestic on yak and yak on buffalo, indicated an increase in fertility. Unfortunately it was not felt that yak were contributing to the success of the experiment, so yak crosses were eliminated.

However the work on cattle and buffalo was continued, and solid gains have been made. Even if nothing more had been done it was a forward step to determine just what the problems are, and to gather information on what can and what cannot be done with the cross. Problems have been determined, and techniques for attacking them have been outlined. It has been definitely established that the cross can be made and buffalo characteristics preserved.

A number of fertile bulls have been raised. There are a number of hybrids at the Manyberries Station and over 200 cattalo—animals whose parents both carry buffalo blood.

Increasing fertility and improving quality are receiving the most concentrated attention. Progress is being made.

"This experiment looks as if it might work out," said H. F. Peters, superintendent of the Manyberries Station. "You can never be sure of producing anything really worth while in this sort of work, but let's just say the work shows some promise."

MR. PETERS may be estimating a little conservatively. Feeding experiments using 75 per cent domestic, 86 per cent domestic, and Hereford indicated that the Hereford were the most efficient in the feedlot, but not by too wide a margin, and during

quality Hereford bulls are now being mated with 50 per cent domestic cows. A fairer test can be made on the progeny of this cross.

Many workers have had a hand in this experiment. Alan Deakin and G. W. Muir, Division of Animal Husbandry, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa; A. G. Smith, former superintendent, Buffalo National Park, Wainwright, Alberta; and A. S. MacLellan, Herdsman, Cattalo Enclosure, Wainwright, have done many years of work in the project. The work is now under the direction of H. F. Peters, superintendent, Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries, Alberta.

These men, like many others, feel that we have not necessarily reached perfection in our cattle breeds. The cattle commonly bred on the prairies are excellent from the point of view of appearance and desirable beef characteristics. However, Marquis wheat was a fine looking sample, yet the plain looking Thatcher drove it out over most of the West. Thatcher was more suited to our conditions. It is possible, by the same token, that a new breed of cattle may be developed that would be more suitable for breeding under rigorous prairie conditions.

It is too early to say, but it is by no means inconceivable that the buffalo will once again roam the prairies with a confidence that they could never assume when they were common property and any hunter could shoot them on sight. The new generation will be different fellows, retaining the hardness of their antecedents, but incorporating the quality of their cattle cousins.

Polly at the Fair

Continued from page 10

since his quarrel with Janice, he became cheerful.

"Five, ten, 15, 20 . . ." He counted, then suddenly yelled. "Hey, Dan! Dan Marks!" He shouted across the barn. "Dan, what's the largest pig-litter you ever heard about?"

"Twenty-three," answered Dan.

"Hey! There's more than 23 piglets here," Inky said, his newsy nose quivering. "How many do you make it, Ray?"

"Forty," answered that pleased young man, fondling Polly's ears. "Nice going, old girl . . . I think you hit the jackpot."

"Forty what?" asked Dan, coming over to look. "Hmfff! Hey! Haskell! Jones! Smethurst! Everybody! Forty pigs in a single litter!"

HASKELL took one pop-eyed look and declared it was utterly impossible. Jones and Smethurst agreed with him. Ray Younger merely waved his hand at the proof, beaming proudly. Dan Marks climbed into the pen, counted the piglets, climbed out, then scrambled back in and recounted. Finally he straddled the fence and yelled for his workers.

"Get nursing bottles! Dozens of bottles! Mix the milk! Hurry! She can't feed this . . . this convention. And if we save 'em, it'll be a world's record. Get going!"

"World's record?" muttered Haskell. He and Jones and Smethurst whispered together a moment, then surreptitiously attached a Grand Championship Ribbon to Polly's pen.

Inky Summers scribbled like mad before scooting away, yelping about catching the weekly edition's head-

lines. He added that the city dailies would want to hear about this freak.

"Freak?" Flash Carson woke up. "Polly and Her Forty Pigs," in banners on a tent! Look, boy: you own Polly, doncha? I'll pay you \$50.00 for the whole she-bang, huh? Whaddayuh say, huh?"

Dan Marks shouldered the sideshow man out of the way and yelled: "I'll buy her, Ray. I'll pay a couple hundred, cash!"

"I'll raise that \$50.00," cried Haskell. "You may have a special large-litter strain—I'll give you \$300.00."

"Four hundred!" bid Jones and Smethurst, simultaneously.

"Five hundred!" bellowed Dan Marks.

"That's more'n I paid for a whole lion," marvelled Flash Carson. "Maybe we could make some kinda rental deal, huh? Whaddayuh say?"

"Calm down, men," said Ray. "Polly's not for sale."

Exhibitors and judges from the cattle, horse and sheep barns got news of Polly's phenomena and came to see. Rumor reached the soggy Happyland Carnival tents and from that quarter came Carson's crew, including the World's Tallest Man, the Fattest Lady in the Universe, and the Hairy Man from Chi-chi-castinango.

"Le's see!"

"Move over!"

"Quit shovin'!"

"Gimme a look, will yuh?"

The Willowdale Press appeared at four o'clock that afternoon. Half an hour later, people were on their way to the fairgrounds garbed in raincoats and holding umbrellas. They paid their admission to the grounds, but didn't pause at Happyland's tents nor look in the Industrial Building's com-

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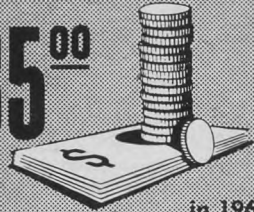
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mercial booth or at the Home Arts exhibit of cooking and fancy work. They headed straight for the pig barn, eager to see Polly and Her Forty Pigs. Those little grunTERS were just about the smallest piglets ever seen, but every last one of them looked healthy and happy in a sleepy sort of way, guzzling milk from bottles and other things, while Polly herself seemed none the worse for her terrific bout of motherhood.

In no time at all the pig barn was jam-packed with people. Dan Marks called out help from the Fair Board and judges. They shooed back the crowd while a work crew built a special fence across the barn floor so that people could file past Polly's pen in orderly rows and safely view the abundant life.

"Lemme bring in a ticket seller, huh?" pleaded Flash Carson. "Look-ut all them cash customers, not payin' a nickel, dime or quarter of a buck. Hey, boy; le's move Polly to a tent, huh? I'll give you expenses and ten per cent. Whaddayuh say, huh?"

"Ten per cent!" scoffed Dan Marks. "Ray, I'll pay \$1,000 for her, right now!"

"So will I," yelled Haskell.

"Me, too," said Jones and Smethurst together.

Ray shook his head, looking glum again.

"Janice'll be pretty sore about this," he whispered to Dan. "I mean, she's got 40 more reasons for her anti-pig quarrel."

"Janice? Hmmffff! That's right, Ray. Better let me take the whole works off your hands for \$1,200, right now."

RAY refused to sell, but a calculating gleam started glinting in his eyes. He knew all the details about starting in geese: cost of breeding stock, special fencing required, finishing pens, and a processing building with a cold storage plant. He looked at the crowd. People were thronging to see Polly and her family. Evening editions of two city dailies had reached town, both giving the sow story a front-page spread. Inky Summers came back and mentioned that a couple of city radio stations were going to broadcast Polly's prodigious doings over their evening newscasts. Ray heard the Fair Board directors tell President Marks that the ticket-sellers at the entrance gate were swamped with business and needed extra help. By this time, the pig barn was continually crowded, the line-ups stretched out in the rain beyond the barn doors.

Ray began to scheme, and at that moment a stout man behind a large cigar offered him a pudgy hand and gold-toothed smile.

"I'm Gorki," he said. "Gorki of Mammoth Shows . . ."

"Get outta here, you chiseller!" howled Flash Carson. "You stay on your circuit and leave Willowdale to Happyland. That's the agreement, all signed and sealed, huh? Whaddayuh say, huh?"

"I didn't bring my show, Flash. I just came to see this fine young fella here, owner of these pigs. Look, fella: Polly would be a sensation on the farm circuit, and Mammoth Shows is booked solid to tour that circuit all summer and fall. Name your price and I'll pay."

"No! No!" screamed Flash. "He's mine! I offered him percentage and

everything! Go back to Mammoth and stay there!"

"You sideshow men keep out of this!" Dan Marks shouted. "This is no freak, but a swine-breeder's triumph! Ray, pay no attention to these carnival guys . . . I'll give you \$1,500, cash."

But Ray said, glancing covertly at Gorki and Flash; "I'm sort of interested in how much money I'd make, say, if we put Polly in a tent and sold tickets?"

Carson and Gorki began to dance and scream, trying to pat Ray's back and punch each other all at the same time. Dan Marks and Haskell, Jones and Smethurst, looked flabbergasted over Ray's announcement. Then the Fair Board held a sudden huddle in midfloor, glancing at the crowds of spectators and at Ray Younger's scheming smile.

THE prospective goose-farmer wouldn't agree to anything that Carson and Gorki offered, but disagreed in such a way as to leave negotiations in a state of flux. By this time the evening had darkened into full night, the rain was falling heavier than ever. It was time to close the barn, but as yet there were still throngs of people lined up to see Polly and her pigs.



Dan Marks said, when the doors finally closed behind the last curious spectator: "Ray, my boy. I've always looked on you as a sort of son, and I know you wouldn't do anything to prejudice my affection for you. After all, Janice is my daughter, and . . . Well, she's my daughter! Hmmfff! Now, Ray, you wouldn't let Gorki take Polly away from Willowdale, would you?"

"What's the paper's weather forecast?" Ray asked Inky Summers.

"Continued rain."

"Hah!" Ray beamed at Dan and the Fair Board. "That means Willowdale's Fair will be rained out tomorrow, unless . . ."

"Unless what?" quavered the directors.

"Unless these 40 piglets stay here."

Gorki said: "But listen! Over at Centerville where Mammoth is set up, there's more people. Especially farmers. They'll come for miles to see Polly. I'll raise the percentage."

"He's mine!" screeched Flash. "I discovered him! I'll give a cash bonus, plus percentage!"

Ray glanced meaningfully at the Fair Board. Dan Marks and the directors went into a huddle, with Haskell, Jones and Smethurst called in as special consultants. Meanwhile, Inky Summers took a number of flash pictures of Polly and her family.

"Why the pics?" asked Ray.

"The morning dailies in the cities ordered them," Inky explained. "It's

what we reporters call human-interest stuff."

"So I noticed, when the crowd was here," Ray nodded, then called across to the huddlers: "Inky tells me the morning papers will carry pictures of Polly's pigs . . . I'm just wondering if he should say we'll be in Willowdale or with Gorki's shows at Centerville."

FLASH CARSON shrieked and Gorki wheedled, while Dan and the directors rechecked figures on gate-tickets sold, which exceeded all previous Willowdale records, despite the rain. Then they advanced on Ray in a body, announcing they were ready to discuss terms.

"The Fair Board is prepared to pay you \$2,000 for Polly and her family," said Dan. "As a local boy, Ray, I'm sure you'll want to do the honorable thing by dear old Willowdale?"

"Polly's not for sale. Besides, I've been figuring what it'll cost me to get started in geese and maybe chickens, like I mentioned to you earlier, Dan. Just in case Janice changes her mind and we compromise. And also supposing that Inky, here, is willing to give up his date with Janice for the fair dance."

"I give her up," nodded Inky. "She only wanted to make you jealous, anyway."

"She's always needling me that way . . . kinda proves she's fond of me, I guess. Anyway, the way I dope it out, I'll need a lot more'n \$2,000 for a good start in both geese and chickens, besides the cost of marriage and having a honeymoon."

"Always providing Janice will have you," interjected Inky.

"Shaddup!" growled Dan Marks. "Of course she'll have him! Hmmfff! Get to the point, Ray . . . what about Polly?"

"She's not for sale, like I said before. I like Polly, and I need at least one pig on the farm to prove my point, such as a certain party not getting her own way too much."

"Yes, yes!" snapped Dan. "Hmmfff! I mean, I quite agree . . . though if you just want to keep Polly in the family, sort of, I'd be glad to buy her from you myself."

"Now, Marks," protested Haskell. "You agreed to negotiate for the Fair Board, not for Pinehill Piggery."

"My proposition's the best offer he's had yet," Gorki declared. "Mammoth Shows'd do the right thing by Polly."

"No! No! Happyland is here now. All we gotta do is put a ticket-seller at this barn door and we're in business. Whaddayuh say?"

"The Fair Board has been in that kind of business ever since Polly hatched her batch," said Ray, beaming as he thought about geese, chickens and the beautiful Janice. "So I kinda thought it would be nice, sort of for the directors to show their appreciation for Polly pulling their fair out of a rained-out failure by paying me ten per cent of today's gate receipts."

"Ten per cent!" howled Dan Marks. "We took in more'n \$5,000 . . . That'd mean \$500, for doing nothing!"

"You forget that I own Polly," Ray reminded him, with dignity.

"Hmmfff! So you do, drat it!" Dan gathered the Board around him again, the huddled gentlemen quickly nodding their heads. So Marks announced, "We'll pay you, you young pirate."

"Thanks a lot," smiled Ray. "In addition to ten per cent for today, I'll require ten per cent of tomorrow's and



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says MRS. DAVID R. DEAN

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next day's receipts, because all this newspaper and radio publicity about Polly is going to bring more people to your fair."

"It's robbery!" yelled Dan.

"It's also raining," reminded Ray. "Don't forget the weather forecast... it says the rain will continue."

"Hmfff!" snorted Dan. He and the Fair Board huddled again for a brief moment, then the president said: "The directors and myself find we've got no alternative but to agree, so we agree, doggone it!"

"Thank you," grinned Ray. "Now in addition to that ten per cent, Inky and me have just doped out a sideline proposition. Inky is going to make copies of his pictures of Polly's pigs, and we want your permission to sell those pictures here tomorrow, at 25 cents each, to anybody who's crazy... who wants to buy them, that is."

"Sure," agreed the Board, without huddling. "Go ahead."

But Dan Marks added, cautiously: "Hmfff! Is there anything else you had in mind, Ray?"

"Now that you mention it, there is another little item. You and Mr. Haskell and Jones and Smethurst are all good pig men, so you know that

Polly's pigs may turn out to be well conditioned to produce large litters when they grow up. Polly herself is not for sale, but I'll be willing to accept orders for Polly's piglets. I figure they're worth \$100 apiece..."

"A hundred dollars!" howled Dan. "It's a holdup! Hmfff! I'll take five."

"I'll take five, also," Haskell said quickly.

"So will we," added Jones and Smethurst.

"Thank you," beamed Ray. "That's 20 of Polly's litter sold already, and no doubt some of the visiting swine men will be interested in the other 20, tomorrow. Let's see... That'll be \$4,000 from Polly's 40 pigs, plus \$500 for today's share of the gate, and likely the same or more for tomorrow and next day. Inky believes we'll clear \$1,000 apiece on the pictures... Say, Dan: I wonder if Janice would be interested in hearing about my goose and chicken raising plans tonight, late and all as it is?"

"I wouldn't be surprised," growled Dan Marks. "I certainly wouldn't be at all surprised. Hmfff!"

"Only condition is, she's got to agree to let me keep Polly."

Janice agreed.

The Will to Win

Men and women who became great athletes in the face of appalling physical handicaps

by HARVEY DAY

THE power of the mind can convert humans into the superior beings they profess to be. When Doris Hart, a former cripple became singles, doubles and mixed doubles tennis champion at Wimbledon, she proved the complete supremacy of her mind over her body. She is neither the first woman nor the first tennis player to conquer crippling illness.

Those who follow tennis will remember the tragic illness which struck down Alice Marble in France. It baffled the doctors. They could not diagnose it. So she was placed on a stretcher and carried aboard a liner at Cherbourg, and in her native California she lay on her back for 18 months. Eventually, by sheer grit and determination she fought her way back to health, came to Wimbledon and battled her way to victory.

The world loves a fighter, and the mere act of gritting one's teeth and fighting ill health is in itself often sufficient to place one's feet on the road to recovery.

Doris Hart and Alice Marble are not the only athletes to conquer physical disability and become not merely good players, but champions.

Some champions were born crippled; others contracted paralyzing diseases or suffered injury. Phil Taylor was so badly mangled in the 1914 war that the doctors told him he would never walk again. But he refused to accept their verdict and for a time hobbled along on crutches. He exercised his injured limbs till he could walk, run, and then skate on ice. Eventually he became world's champion ice skater and gave demonstrations on stilts.

Another to overcome the handicap of war wounds was Tommy Gray who in 1950 won his rugby international cap for Scotland at fullback. In 1945 at Genep, on the Dutch-German frontier, an anti-tank shell blew away

half his left foot, including two toes. He spent a year in hospital and his left foot shrank. But when he hobbled out, he wanted to play football! When he could walk, it was agonizing for him to kick a moving ball, even gently. So he padded his foot with cotton wool and rubber and gingerly tapped a ball about. In two and one-half years he was able to kick as well with his left as with his right, and at 32, an age when rugger men are usually past their prime, he scored 175 points—the record for one season—for Northampton.

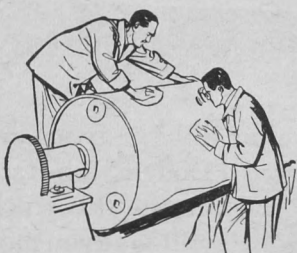
Years ago in Kansas, two brothers, Floyd and Glen, used to run to school in winter, to light fires before lessons started. One day some criminally careless person filled the coal oil can with gasoline, and when they lit a match and placed the open mouth of the can near the blazing paper, there was a terrific explosion. When Glen came to, he realized that the school was on fire. He raced out—then remembered his brother and flew back. Though terribly burned, he dragged Floyd out, but Floyd died. The toes of Glen's left foot were burnt away, the transverse arch destroyed, and one leg was inches shorter than the other.

At 14 he was still limping, but a few years later, his foot bound with heavy tape, Glen Cunningham ran for the University of Kansas and clocked four minutes and 6.8 seconds for the mile, breaking the world's record.

Some years before the war Charles Zibelman's exploits made headlines. When Jimmy, as he was known, was a newsboy on the streets of Chicago, he fell in front of a tram which severed both his legs. When he came out of hospital they made him a little platform on roller skates on which he learned to push himself about. One day one of his school friends shoved him when near the swimming pool, and before he could stop, he was in



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the water. To his surprise he found that without legs, his body was unsinkable! He now found a new interest and so loved the water that he became known as the human fish.

Some extraordinary feats, never equalled, stand to his credit. He holds the record for the world's endurance swim, remaining in the water at Honolulu for 100 hours and 15 seconds.

"Legs," Zimmy once told me, "are an absolute hindrance to a man in the water. Having no legs, the blood has a shorter distance to travel, and I remain warm."

Instead of moaning about his disability, he made the best of it, and gave long-distance exhibition swims. His longest was down the Hudson from Albany to New York, a distance of 150 miles, during which he consumed ten pounds of beef and smoked innumerable cigars.

Another crippled record-breaker was Walter Greaves, the one-armed cyclist, who in 1936 set up a cycling mileage record of 45,383 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles. Although one uses the legs in propelling a cycle, the lack of one arm throws an unnecessarily heavy strain on the other, and Greaves' feat is an outstanding one.

Peter Howard was another who overcame the handicap of a shrunken

leg. When he was a boy his companions cruelly laughed at him because of his wizened limb. "I'll learn 'em," thought Peter, and used that leg whenever he could, till it grew stronger than the other. He became the school's best high jumper, and later took up rugby and captained England!

BROKEN limbs, crippled bodies, lack of legs and arms—all these disabilities can be overcome by a really determined person. One day a young man named Lou Gregory had a car smash and broke both his legs. After the car smash the doctor shook his head. "You'll be lucky, young man, if you ever walk again!" But Gregory was not the man to take such a verdict lying down. To strengthen his legs he took up special exercises, then gentle jogging, and finally running. He struggled to fitness, became a good runner and eventually represented America in the 10,000 metres, at the 1932 Olympic Games.

Another great-hearted athlete was Ray Ewry, who has won more Olympic titles than any man, dead or alive. As a boy he was paralyzed. As he wheeled himself about he practiced exercises to strengthen his limbs.

When he could totter about he fixed a string across his room, a few inches from the floor, and jumped over it. He

kept increasing the height, and as there was no space for a run, always jumped without one. He became adept at the standing high jump and cleared five feet five inches. Ewry has eight Olympic medals—all because he refused to be beaten.

All over the world there are men and women of his calibre. Buster Nupen, the South African cricketer was one. His back was so weak that he could not stand without a support, and throughout the 1924 tour in England, he bowled with his torso strapped in a support. He did the same during the 1930 English tour in South

Africa. Eventually an osteopath set him right, but his courage was outstanding.

Don't envy champions. Ask yourself, "How did this man become a champion? What is it that raises him above the common ruck?" More often than not you will unearth a story of a fight against illness or poverty. You may find that only determination and a refusal to lie down and accept defeat has enabled him to rise above his handicaps. The man or woman who is dead set on any course, and who puts all his energy and intelligence into the fight, is rarely beaten.

He Makes Soil Conservation Work

Eric Tuplin's farming practices take heed for tomorrow without sacrificing income today

by J. T. EWING

ONE of the men most concerned about soil erosion in Saskatchewan is Eric Tuplin who farms four miles southwest of Beechy. He is using practically all the approved soil conservation methods—strip cropping, blade tillage and trash cover, forage crops and field shelterbelts. He has seven quarters of land including a half section bought this spring mainly for

pasture. Eight hundred acres are under cultivation. Although wheat is his main crop he grows some oats and barley each year. Last year he had 60 acres of oats on stubble that yielded between 50 and 60 bushels to the acre and 60 acres of barley, also on stubble, that yielded 40 bushels to the acre.

The half section on which Mr. Tuplin's buildings are located is



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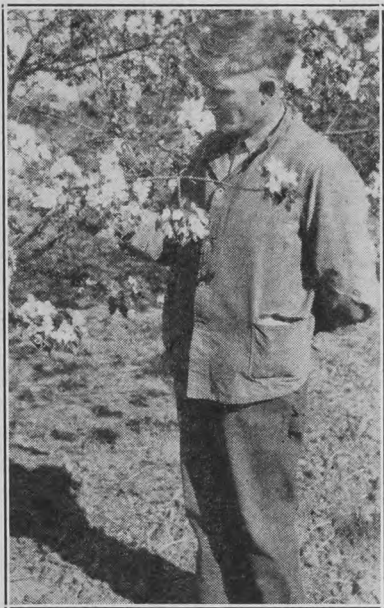
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farmed in 18-rod strips a mile long. Every other strip is summerfallowed each year while those between grow a crop.

He is sold on the value of field shelterbelts for reducing erosion and lowering the rate of evaporation. He was one of 17 farmers in the district who planted trees this spring. He planted 13,000 on his home half section. That made four rows a mile long,



Eric Tuplin regards an Osman crab in his orchard.

18 rods between the rows. Within a few years he hopes to have the entire half section planted to caraganas in this way.

Doug Grant, the local agricultural representative, whose headquarters are at Elbow, worked up interest in the tree planting scheme last fall. He held a series of meetings in Beechy and showed films indicating the improved soil conditions where trees had been planted. A tree planting association was formed and Mr. Tuplin was elected president.

This spring more than 100,000 trees were planted in the Beechy district. The trees were free, each farmer paying the shipping charges on his trees from Indian Head to Beechy. More trees would have been ordered if it had been certain that a tree planting machine would be available. The conservation branch of the department of agriculture bought six tree planters and made them available for such projects all over the province.

The Beechy men obtained the use of one of these planters and planted their trees very quickly. In fact without previous experience they planted 20,000 trees the first day. Only three men were needed—one man to drive the tractor and two men to sit on the planter and set the trees into the furrow. The machine was operated at about one-half mile per hour.

Something else besides trees that Mr. Tuplin is using to protect his soil is a Noble blade cultivator, which enables him to keep plenty of trash on the surface. High winds blowing during the day of my visit demonstrated the need of trash cover to keep the soil in place. Several fields were losing soil but Mr. Tuplin's farm was staying at home.

He uses a WD-9 tractor and does most of the field work himself. Besides all his grain farming he finds time to care for some 20 head of cattle. He has several purebred Shorthorn cows

but uses a Hereford bull, finding that the first Shorthorn-Hereford cross gives him the greatest profit from beef animals.

Two litters a year from two sows is his general practice with pigs. He has always had good luck with winter pigs. During that time of the year he has plenty of time to take good care of them. Over the last five years, he told me, he has averaged at least nine pigs weaned in each litter. This spring there were ten.

At present he has four horses and one colt. The colt was foaled by his riding pony. In fact all his horses are light enough to be good riding horses or to use for driving to town in winter, but heavy enough to do chores around the farm.

Mrs. Tuplin has charge of the poultry flock. This spring they bought 100 mixed Barred Rock chicks. Last year they tried Light Sussex and liked them very well.

Crested wheat grass has been seeded on 18 acres to provide hay for the livestock. Last year he had planned to seed down another 40 acres but he thought he would postpone it since crested wheat seed was so high. He did buy enough to plant seed plots of alfalfa and crested wheat grass, one acre of each, so he could grow his own seed.

Mr. Tuplin was planting sweet corn in the garden with the hand planter shown in the picture at the time of my visit last spring. That was just about the last of his garden planting. I exclaimed at his nice fruit trees, most of which were in bloom. He has about 30 trees, crabapples, plums and plum-cherries. They are well protected from winds by the well-grown hedge of caraganas, maples, elms and pines, although the pines seem to be dying. About six acres where the farm buildings are situated are enclosed by these trees. I noticed a row of pincherries and chokecherries in bloom between the house and the garden. He said that he intends to grub them out and replace them with saskatoons.

Mr. Tuplin, although a quiet-mannered man, is a community leader. At the last municipal election he was elected reeve of the municipality.



Mr. Tuplin working a small, hand corn planter.

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Catamount Gold

Continued from page 9

now. The spears and blades and arrows of light that stabbed across the velvet of the star-studded sky in the utter silence, broken only on earth by the murmur of the rapids, appeared to be brushing against each other as they ranged back and forth like giant searchlight beams from the end of the earth.

JIM crept out and stood up, keeping a blanket about him and walked down to the stream to get a wider view. Far, far to the north the golden glow was deeper and more brilliant.

Jim Lawton was not a very superstitious man, not overly sentimental, but this manifestation of nature affected him deeply.

"Pot o' gold at the end of the rainbow," he found himself muttering, his eyes wide, feeling fully awake and as if he did not care to sleep more.

He watched the display for an hour, then his eyes grew tired, and the rainbow shafts were fading as the sun began to lighten the eastern sky a bit. He went back into his lean-to, shivering, but soon was warm in his blankets again and slept and dreamed of solid sheets and bars of gold.

He laughed at himself when he awoke in daylight, telling himself there could be no such discovery, ever, not even in King Solomon's mines. He

had seen some fancy ore that had come up out of the rock of Catamount, sparkling fragments that the miners called "jewelry store stuff," and kept locked up to show only under guard to prospective investors. He started a fire, then cut a forked pole a dozen feet long and prowled slowly along the edge of the pool, facing the rising sun. When he reached some shallows where the emerald-tinted water had a bottom of white rock dust, scoured off by ice and erosion, he spotted a little school of pike. He moved an inch at a time until he could put the forked end of the pole down close beside a slumbering fish and with a quick flip, tossed it up and out, flopping on the beach. He left the pole on the beach and cleaned the glistening pike, throwing the remains in the pool to feed the others, then hid his pole and prepared and ate a big breakfast, after which he began to feel that the world was his oyster, after all.

As he finished the sun was high enough to strike the pinkish quartz white rocks that bound in the stream a little way down, and they glowed and shone and sparkled so that he went to look them over. It did not take long to learn that no gold was imbedded in them unless deep in the solid heart of them, for the water had washed their surfaces clean and smooth, exposing the curious, twisted strata of the volcanic rock. No speck or streak of yellow appeared.

"I wouldn't want to hack away at them, anyway," Jim told the new, fresh, beautiful world that the sun had awakened and painted with light.

He began cruising up the stream, taking a hammer and chisel only, to peck away at outcrops here and there



The world's greatest salesman, according to legend, is the man who sold milking machines in Oshkosh. He sold a machine to a farmer who had one cow. Then he took the cow away as the down payment.

and examine the broken surfaces with a microscope for traces of gold. In the long morning he covered a mile up one side and down the other of the creek, and made sure that he passed up no likely looking outcrop. He found no ore with more than a faint sparkle in it, however, and decided that there could be no vein of gold in that particular territory.

After he had boiled tea and eaten

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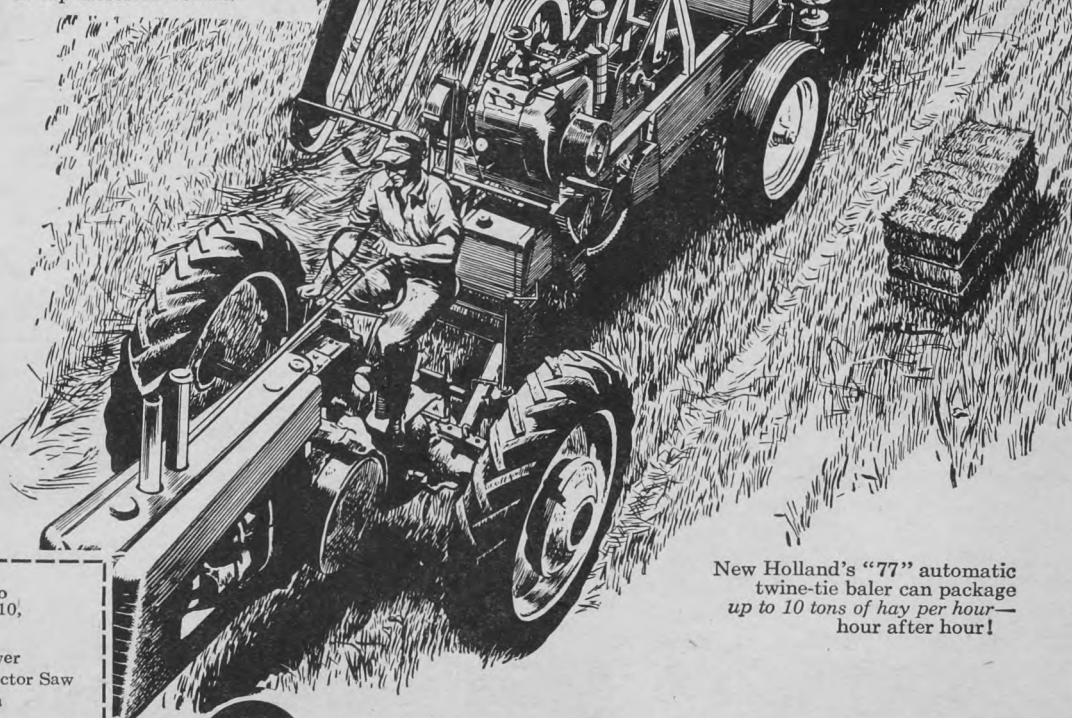
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a lunch he went downstream in the same methodical sort of prospecting, always careful to cover up the rock breakages with moss or to rub them with earth to obliterate the marks of his search. He did not intend to set stakes anywhere until he was quite sure he had found something of value, and he was determined to keep to himself, not to be tempted into locating near any other claim and not to tempt others to dog his footsteps. Crazy rushes had been started by just such casual prospecting as this, when someone suspected a man of having found something precious and trying to keep it secret. There had been one down the Albany River, one down the Montreal River, a reported placer or pocket strike far to the south, a new silver strike to the southwest, none of them proving up well.

IN the days that followed Jim cruised over a territory of more than four square miles. He had brought in some specimens of ore with gold in it, and this, in spare moments, he hammered and crushed to powder with a sledge and panned it, washing it until the dust was all out of the pan, leaving a tiny "tail" of gold powder which he could use to estimate the percentage of gold to the ton of rock. It was not much, none of it more than \$10.00 a ton, not at all worth digging in this place, far from means of transportation and milling. But he had learned that a man could keep going by selling claims with even a small showing of gold to the big companies. They were fast gobbling up acres of land around the town and camps, to protect their rich properties and to prevent undercutting or high grading of their main veins from outside.



"Certainly not! You can't go to the fire after all that popping corn you just ate."

Jim took a rest at the end of the week, staying in camp, for one reason because it was raining a cold drizzle, for another because he had decided to write a letter to Anne and take it to the new camp, leave it at the roadhouse for an Indian runner to pick up, and perhaps he'd find his lost letter, or another one, waiting for him. First he patched up leaks in his lean-to with long, wide strips of spruce bark, and banked around the edges with dry moss and evergreen droppings, covering this with green twigs. Then he sat down facing his fireplace which was built with a slab of rock set on edge beside another which formed a hearth. This was to reflect heat, throwing it into the open lean-to. By the fire light he pencilled a letter.

He told Anne the truth about his lack of luck, but predicted cheerfully and confidently that he was soon going to make a strike.

"I've a good hunch," he wrote, and he meant it. "I'm going to play that hunch to the limit. Just sit tight, dear, and wait for me a little while longer. You probably have learned that I sold out to the Good Fortune people and I reckon I got the best end of the deal, small as it was. You asked if I was working with a partner, in one of your letters. No, and I'm not going to, because you're my partner. I might take—"

He rubbed that out. He had been about to write that he might take a partner sometime. He was thinking of Marean and his sly proposition, but he told himself that only in extreme desperation would he consider that tricky business with such an individual.

It rained softly all night and kept on in the morning, which was Sunday. Jim got into a windbreaker of waterproof cloth and hanging his provisions from a rope on a high limb to keep them from varmints that might prowl in, he departed for the new camp.

To avoid leaving too plain a trail out to the main one, he travelled downstream from his camp some distance before he cut into the woods to the east and north. Circling a swamp where water stood too deep for his shoepacs, Jim noticed a formation of rock of odd shape, looking something like a huge elephant with its legs curled under it, lying down. It was one of many such domes that had been thrust up in the woods, and prospectors often investigated these for signs of gold. For one thing, there was not so much labor involved in stripping off the thick overburden of moss, earth, roots and other covering which concealed the vast rock floor of this area. But it was too wet to go near this one, and Jim had left his tools behind anyway, to travel light, for he intended to return to his lean-to before dark.

However, out of habit, he blazed some trees to mark the location of the elephant dome and soon got out onto the main trail where travel was easier.

The trail at one point passed between an outcrop that was split open, furnishing a natural pass on high ground. A tall fir had been broken off near the butt and had fallen across the high ledges, ten or 12 feet above the trail, its branches still green. Jim remarked this as a sign-post for his return journey, a place to turn off into the woods and pass again the elephant dome. His observations were almost automatic, the result of his hard-won experience. Had he been more of a woodsman he might have noticed something else about that narrow pass and its half-root of the broken fir. But Jim had lived most of his life in a large city and had had to learn wilderness lore in a few weeks, fortunately, from a wonderful tutor, his Indian guide whom he could not afford to keep now.

He remembered after he had passed this place that the Indian had always looked up sharply when he passed beneath any overhang in the woods, as if expecting to see something alive hidden above him.

JIM reached the new camp at noon and found it alive and roaring, the prospectors and men they had hired as shovel and pick workmen, muckers, celebrating the holiday in and around the rude roadhouse. Jim soon discovered the reason for the shouts and

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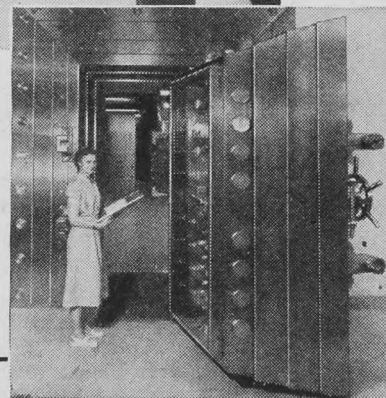
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yells and the brawls that were in progress. Inside the roadhouse a garrulous group were in the midst of a drinking bout, some were rolling dice, some playing poker, a few eating a steaming dinner of moose-meat stew. Almost everyone was talking or singing or whistling. The proprietor of the place, whom everyone called "Uncle Jack," was very much under the influence, practically helpless to move about, but his mood was expansive and hospitable. He welcomed Jim as if he were a long-lost friend and urged him to have a drink and something to eat.

"One o' my Injuns kilt a big moose yestiddy," he mumbled. "More meat 'n we all kin eat 'fore it spiles. Dip in, dip in!"

It was pot luck, the savory stew being served in a huge pan set in the center of a large plank table and surrounded with greasy tin dishes and a few dark bottles, lumps of hard bannock bread to be soaked in the stew serving instead of spoons.

Jim was not squeamish but he passed up the bottles and dipped himself a cup of stew and began eating. "Uncle Jack" eyed him hazily and inquired, "Jest come up from Catamount, stranger?"

"No, I've been out for a week," Jim replied. "And I'm not exactly a stranger. Name is Lawton. I'm anxious to send a letter out. Happen to be any mail here for me, Jim Lawton?"

"Guess yer outa luck, Lawton. Say, yer the feller they call Luckless Lawton, ain't yer?"

Jim had learned to take this with a grin, and he replied, "They do, and it's a common name around here, I reckon. Not everyone can be lucky."

"Sright, ol' man. 'sright," Uncle Jack agreed tipsily. "Have a drink on the house. My frien' Marean jest blew in this mornin' with some wet goods. Haw, haw!"

Jim said nothing save a murmured refusal with thanks, and looked about the room for the scarred face of Marean. Not that he wished to meet him again, but to spot him and see what he was doing. Marean was rolling dice at the moment. Jim finished his stew and took his letter from his pocket.

"Give it to the Injun out back," Uncle Jack advised, then lurched over to prop himself up against the dice table and kibitz the game.

Jim went into the kitchen where an old, fat squaw was serving as cook and a young Indian squatted on his heels in a corner, a bright-eyed fellow who reached for the letter even before Jim offered it.

"Me takeum to Cat'mount tomorrow," he promised. "Fetch back some mail."

Jim offered him some coins but the Indian shook his head.

"Tabac, please," he said. "Snoos all gone."

Jim gave him half a bag of tobacco and some matches, lighted his own pipe and squatted down beside the boy.

He had learned how to get information from an Indian not by too many direct questions, and he had made friends with the boy, who knew Jim's former guide.

"When you get to Catamount, ask Pegleg, the Recorder, if he picked up a letter. Mine. It was open. Fetch it back here. And give Pegleg this pack-

age. Tell him to give you tabac for me. From me to you."

He drew out his tiny leather pouch of gold-dust.

The boy nodded and thrust letter and pouch inside his shirt. When Jim looked up he saw the ugly, grinning face of Marean in the doorway, his little eyes squinting, sharply.

"Had some luck, eh, Luckless?" Marean leered. "Struck a pocket of free gold, mebbe."

"Nothing like it, and you know it," Jim replied, rising. "No placer gold around here."

"Yer located up here now?" Marean persisted.

"I'm travelling," Jim answered shortly.

Marean was not to be rebuffed. For a reason unknown to Jim, Marean had picked him out for a renewed proposition. Again he offered Jim a chance on "a surefire restakin' job, on a rich claim."

"End of the month, yer know, when it comes, they'll be blokes that ain't done their assessment work, and when it strikes midnight, we can restake, all fair an' legal."

Jim knew what his game was. It was a left-handed claim jumping trick. Several unscrupulous men had grabbed properties this way, but they were not at all popular, though actually within the law. And he would not put it past Marean to jump the gun, even before the privilege expired, and then, if caught, turn on his partner and declare he had done it. Undoubtedly Marean had been well informed by Pegleg Jones and he was bootlegging to the outside camps while he waited for the main chance. Whiskey would help him to befuddle some prospector who had failed to work out his assessments within the specified time. Undoubtedly "Uncle Jack" was more or less aware of Marean's purposes, but was a victim of the liquor Marean imported. And Marean was looking for a young, strong, sober fellow to help him do the staking.

"Yer seen the jewelry store stuff some of the boys has been blowin' out, around here?" Marean asked and jerked his head toward a bench on which was a rudely built case, covered with glass. There was spread out a display of hunks of ore which, at a glance, Jim knew was rich with free gold. It gave him a start to see it.

"Some o' this stuff," Marean whispered, "come from a forty that ain't been developed and it's rich pickin's. Yer don't have to trust to luck when you land onto somethin' like this—all set fer yer."

"Well, maybe so, Marean," Jim answered, tearing his eyes away from the glittering rock, and fixing them on Marean's sly, crooked face. "But that's not my game. Not my style. I'm riding my luck and it's bound to turn."

"Yer'll ride it too long," declared Marean. "Yer either a damned fool or yer got more'n a lucky hunch to go on. I hear yer got an offer of backin' if yer strike somethin' by the first."

"I'm not a damned fool," retorted Jim stiffening, "and I'll go my own way and you go yours."

"Well, okeh, Lawton, but yer'll be sorry," Marean declared.

After Jim had gone, Marean stood, his eyes narrowed, an evil grin on his face and muttered, "Mebbe I'll be goin' yer way, Lawton, and find what yer got."

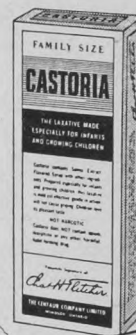
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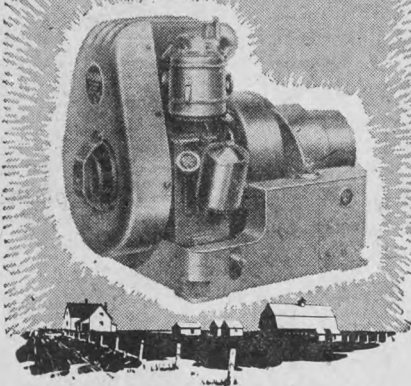
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Grey Ghosts of the West

*Ways must be devised to reduce the slaughter
of big game by marauding wolves*

by JOHN PATRICK GILLESE

FEARFUL, the cow moose, heavy with calf, moved silently up the mountain side. The great jackpine forests were still and dim, so dense that not even sunlight shafted down to the mossy needles. But the moose had good reason for her anxiety. For stalking her, waiting patiently like docile shepherd dogs, were a pair of long-bodied, rough-furred timber wolves. Their dens and their hungry young were in the rimrocks above. When the great moose lay down, the wolves moved in closer. Before she was strong enough to get on her feet again, the wolves had got the calf.

Like grey wraiths, they slunk back to the rimrocks, content till tomorrow when their hunger would send them forth to stalk another victim. During mid-May and early June they do not attack the adult big game. There is no need to. Such hunting can wait till the deep snows of winter, when the pack is assembled under a white moon.

Fact or fiction?

"Fact," says Don Forsland, lithe, well-built game superintendent, in the Provincial Game Branch at Edmonton. For more than a decade now, he has been officially associating with guides, trappers, rangers, big-game hunters and the continent's best predatory experts, and almost word for word he drew that picture of how the wolves work. The toll of moose and fawn calves taken by these killers of the tall timber has been enormous in the West in recent years. For the 1950 season, moose hunting was banned in Alberta—the province which yielded the world's record moose rack. In the winter, when the moose are on their lower browsing range, the toll is not so heavy.

Two years ago when a new lethal poison, 10:80, was brought into large-scale use by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a high-ranking Alberta government official told me 10:80 would never be used in Alberta. "It's too deadly," he said. "Sure, it destroys predators wholesale—but it takes a heavy toll of small game and valuable furbearers, too—wild turkey, quail, raccoons, even tree squirrels. It's not for us."

Yet so stormy is the barrage of complaints rising from farmers, trappers and stockmen that, meeting in fall caucus, Social Credit government members (who have less opposition in the provincial house than St. Laurent has in Ottawa) listened attentively while cabinet ministers outlined proposals for bringing U.S. poison experts across the border to indoctrinate Alberta wildlife officers in the use of potent 10:80. Caucus action is always a key to legislative measures, and the provincial government has even indicated it will seek permission of the Federal government to invade parks and game sanctuaries to clean out the "breeding grounds" of the wolves and coyotes.

"It is inconceivable," Forsland told me, speaking again of the tragic toll of moose calves, "that Alberta should be short of moose. In Sweden in 1949, hunters bagged 15,000 of these great game animals. In Alberta, by comparison, non-resident hunters took out 113

licences and killed 68 moose." Slightly over 8,000 resident hunters took out tabs for moose, and while no figures are kept of the resident big-game kill, it is highly unlikely that more than 900 moose were bagged at home. (The percentage of success is higher for non-resident hunters, since they invest a lot of money in a moose hunting trip, must obtain guides, etc. Alberta hunters, on the other hand, pay a small hunting fee and have the option of taking other trophies instead.)

Sweden's area is about that of Alberta, but only a rough half of the country is suitable moose terrain. "Since the annual moose kill is about ten per cent of the moose population," explains Forsland, "that means half of Sweden harbors a population of about 150,000 moose—in places about five per square mile!"

At the moment the province finds itself almost helpless to deal with the growing hordes of predators. In the Brazeau Timber Reserve, in the once-great hunting country of the Clearwater, from the foothills to the north, timber wolves are thicker than at any time in history. In the last period for which the Department has compiled figures (April 1, 1948-March 31, 1949) the Alberta government paid bounties totalling over \$12,000 on 850 timber wolves and 50 cougars killed. Game officials, like those in every other province, feel the bounty system has failed. As Forsland puts it, "about the same number of claims are paid each year," mostly to trappers who accidentally run across a wolf when on the trail.

FOR two years, Alberta farmers have made war of their own on the grey ghosts, organizing week-end "shotgun armies," with as many as 500 armed men scouring a few square miles of copse and flatland on a Sun-

day afternoon. The wolves are too smart, though—they hide in every conceivable hole and piece of brush, their color blending perfectly against the western landscape, unbudging till a hunter is almost atop of them; they dodge under barbed wire fences and down creek bottoms; in critical cases, they allow the odd foolish coyote to become a decoy for the hunters, while the rest of the veterans backtrack and escape—and a party of 300 men is lucky to bag two coyotes on a day's hunt.

That trappers hate the wolf is dramatically illustrated. Of the 850 shot in Alberta, only 43 pelts were marketed during the fiscal year mentioned—and these for an average of \$4 apiece. Trappers may curse the four-legged phantoms, but by today's prices killer wolves are not worth the trouble of skinning.

Other factors than the purely economic have kept their numbers high. Because of danger to cattle and valuable furbearers, trappers cannot use cyanide guns or similar lethal weapons. No snares may be set on crown lands—and all forest reserves, those tall timbers which are the home of the predators, are crown lands. Forestry officials fear that big game, like mule and whitetail deer, will be caught in the snares. Guns are impractical, for the simple reason that wolf hunters are not allowed to trespass on registered traplines, while trappers themselves carry only a .22 rifle or a .410 handgun for disposing of animals in their sets. A big rifle—the only effective gun for wolves—is too heavy to tote along with traps, snares, game, etc. (By the way, few professional outdoorsmen feel that snares, even if neglected, will ever catch a deer, if only because snares are usually set under deadfalls and other likely spots on predatory trails.)

Even traps are out of the question at present, because of their cost. It requires a No. 5 Newhouse trap to hold a timber wolf, and that sets a trapper back about \$5.00. The weight of such traps is a secondary deterrent. A mink, worth \$20, can be taken in a light trap. Wolf traps are so big that, generally, they are set in the trapper's cabin, then gingerly carried to the scene of the wolf set. In listing such handicaps, Ray Mustard, a professional guide and outfitter at Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, estimates that of his three or four hundred traps, he has only one strong enough to hold a killer wolf.

As an alternative to the proposed use of poison, Don Forsland is toying with an idea which he feels would be extremely practical in bringing the wolf menace under control. He would have his department buy wolf traps in wholesale quantities, then lend them to trappers upon request. This would solve the great obstacle of cost, for under such a scheme, trappers would only have to pay for such traps as they might lose from time to time. Such a method might entail years of slow, plodding work—but here, nobody believes there is any quick solution to banishing the marauding grey ghosts of the West.



One of the guilty.

Big Chief Woodpecker

The northern pileated, common in Canadian woods, is the head man in the woodpecker family

by KERRY WOOD

A WALK through the winter woodlands may reward you with a glimpse of Canada's largest woodpecker: the showy and spectacular northern pileated. The bird is chiefly slate grey and white in color, but sports a flaming topnotch of scarlet feathers, a distinctive badge that shows up well against the wintry background.

The pileated is almost as large as a crow, measuring 17 to 18 inches in over-all length from beak to tail. Only one other North American woodpecker is larger in size, the ivory billed woodpecker of Florida. Unhappily, the ivory-billed seems to be rapidly nearing extinction, which means that the northern pileated may soon be the chief of the woodpecker clan.

Our Canadian bird is seldom found far from either spruce pine, or fir forests. They love the evergreen woods, and thrive in and near National Parks of the mountain region. But in big game hunting territories, pileated woodpeckers have suffered badly from persecution by thoughtless gunners, who shoot the showy birds to take home as specimens to be stuffed. Consequently,

pileated woodpeckers are scarce in many parts of the Canadian wilds where they were once abundant.

Woodpeckers are continually seeking wood-boring grubs, insects and wood-ants. They are considered the carpenters of the bird-world. Every year woodpeckers excavate new nest-holes in dead trees and stumps. Deserted woodpecker holes become coveted nesting sights sought by birds who depend on woodpecker carpenters for snug homes. Birds such as purple martins, tree swallows, bluebirds, chickadees, and wrens all make good use of deserted woodpecker excavations. The extra large holes cut by the giant pileated woodpeckers are sometimes occupied in after-years by two of our common tree-nesting ducks: the goldeneye and bufflehead.

A popular nickname of the pileated is the log-cock, given because of the bird's habit of seeking out an old log and battering the rotten wood to shreds in its eager quest for wood-grubs and wood-boring ants. A pileated woodpecker can tear open a ten-inch log and scatter chips far and wide during the course of an hour's

drilling. It delights to find the frozen bodies of the large, black wood-ants that riddle the heart-section of trees, feasting full on such insects.

Old-time lumbermen of the mountain forests searched for these large wood-ants during the winter season: they used to eat these frozen ants, believing that by so doing they were curing themselves of the aches and

pains of rheumatism. If there is any truth in this strange superstition, pileated woodpeckers must never suffer from stiff joints!

Next time you visit a conifer forest in winter or summer, look for the flashing red top notch and listen for the ringing kuk-kuk-kuk call of Canada's largest and showiest woodpecker, the northern pileated or log-cock.

Phonograph Discards

Useful articles can be made from old phonograph records

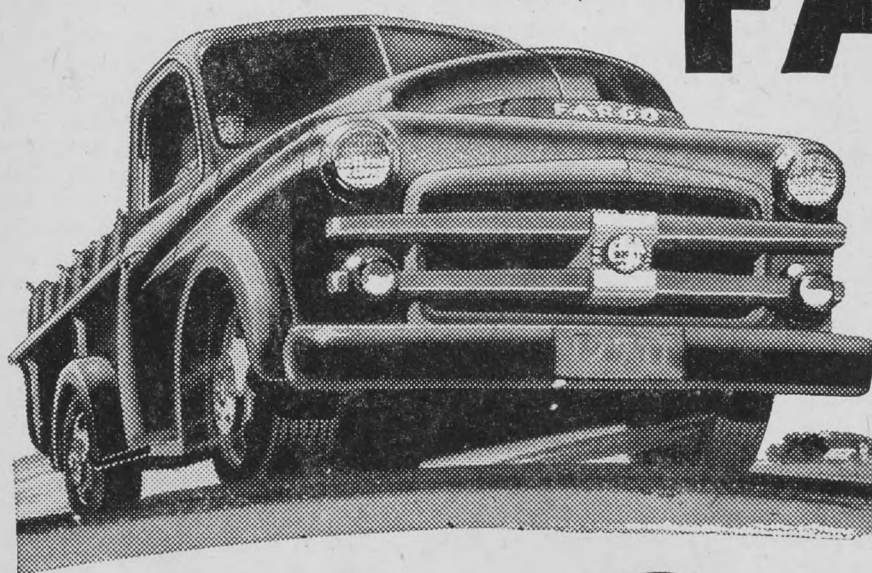
O NE might think that there could be no more useless thing than a worn-out phonograph record. But long after they have become so badly scratched that they are no longer useful for making sweet music, they can be made into pretty and useful fruit bowls, card trays, wall vases, and other similar articles.

Most records are made from a hard wax that softens and becomes pliable when heated, and when in this condition, can be easily bent into various shapes. The record is immersed for a few seconds in hot water, and upon removing, can be bent and shaped at will so long as it remains very hot. But as soon as the record cools off even slightly, it becomes hard and brittle again and must be reheated to continue the shaping process.

It will be necessary to dip the record in the hot water several times, shaping it a little after each "bath." As the records are very hot after their immersion, one should wear gloves of some sort to protect the fingers. Rubber gloves are good for such work, as they will not become soaked, and heat does not easily pass through the rubber.

After the records have been shaped into the articles you wish, designs such as flowers, leaves, etc., may be painted on the surface with colored paints or enamels.

While most records will be easily shaped by the method just described, there are some which are made of a different composition and will not soften when heated. These usually have cardboard in their centers, while others may be made from some plastic.



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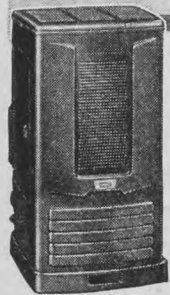
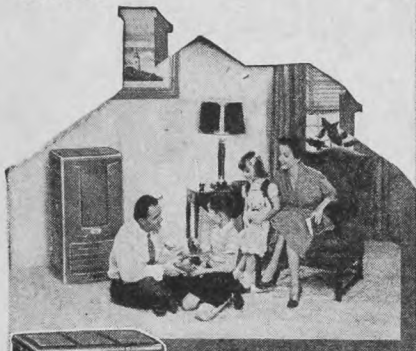
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Front view of Lethbridge's fine civic center.

They Beat Juvenile Delinquency

Lethbridge, "Recreational Capital of Canada," has found in its well-organized recreational facilities an answer to a world-wide problem

by PHILIP H. GODSELL

JUVENILE delinquency holds no terrors for Lethbridge, self-styled "Recreational Capital of Canada." Not that the youngsters of this thriving metropolis of the irrigation area of southern Alberta are better, or worse, than those of other places. They are just as full of brimstone and ginger as any other normal teen-agers, but here, through co-ordinated efforts of service clubs and city fathers, centered in the \$325,000 Civic Sports Center, the \$240,000 skating and curling rink, two heated outdoor swimming pools, a 90-acre artificial lake, four ball parks, nine playgrounds, eight outdoor skating rinks and endless other facilities, the youth of the city are given a healthy opportunity to work off their high spirits and superabundant energy in a wholesome and appealing atmosphere.

Four of these playgrounds have youth councils which, complete with mayors, govern their individual activities. These councils function under direction of the children's parents and a playground supervisor.

Chief Constable Harvey, in his annual report to the city council, attributed the almost negligible incidence of juvenile delinquency to these recreational outlets, while Judge Fryatt pointed out that, in the past year and a half, only two youths under 18 had to be taken from their homes for correction, and added: "The Juvenile Court will often go for weeks without a single youngster being brought before it."

Starting from scratch, these sports and recreational features have mounted from a mere nothing to an edifice of colossal stature in the past four years. Sparked by the work of service clubs—the \$60,000 Lions swimming pool, and the \$40,000 Kinsman playground—it was the generous, far-sighted gift of \$100,000 donated by the late Fritz Sick, pioneer industrialist of the city, who carved out a brewing empire in the Northwest, that really got things under way.

Promptly, Mayor D. H. Elton, K.C., took steps to procure from the Dominion government the entire Royal Canadian Mounted Police barracks square in the center of the city for a civic center. Paid for out of this donation, and largely from reserves built up during the war years, the major units were constructed during the past four years without running the city into debt. Stronghold for the entire sports and recreation programs is the Civic Sports Center building, wherein are now co-ordinated not only youth activities but all the art, musical, cul-

tural and sports activities of the city, which was officially opened by Emil G. Sick in October, 1949, in memory of his father.

Directly off the lobby and executive offices is the No. 1 gymnasium and auditorium, containing a basketball and volleyball floor, four badminton and two shuffleboard courts; it is equipped with a public address system, and bleacher accommodation for 800. No. 2 gym, built as an immense stage, looks down on No. 1. It is equipped with removable draw and drape curtains and other stage trappings, and is marked out for a basketball floor and two badminton courts. The boxing gym is equipped with demountable rings and other training facilities, while the heated outdoor swimming pool, 106 by 55 feet, forms part of the main building.

Apart from these features this Civic Sports Center and Fritz Sick Memorial also offers a large number of meeting or club rooms, and it's not unusual to find all these in use at the same time: a game of basketball going on in the large gymnasium with 800 spectators, members of the Old Timers' Dance Club practicing reels and square dances in the other, and the Boxing Club conducting regular classes in the basement gym, while the Sketch Club, Camera Club and other cultural groups are holding meetings in the various rooms, many of them congregating later in the large dining hall serviced by a fully modern and up-to-date kitchen.

Latest addition to the Civic Sports Center is the \$240,000 Ice Center, an enormous structure, housing the larg-

est covered-ice surface in the Dominion, which was opened last November. It contains a skating and hockey rink 180 by 80 feet; ten curling sheets; seating accommodation for 800; dressing rooms and showers for girls and boys; a glassed-in spectators' room and lobby, and a refreshment concession. Other development work in prospect embraces a quarter-mile cinder track, a turfed football pitch, and a new fastball diamond.

THE over-all guiding force is the Recreation Commission, a citizens' committee appointed by the city council. Chosen to head this eight-member committee was George B. McKillop, M.B.E., who has done more for the youth of Lethbridge in the last three decades than any one man—a fact recognized in 1948 when he was made a member of the Order of the British Empire. On his recent retirement he was succeeded by D. L. "Pat" Hamilton.

Appointed athletic director on July 1, 1949, by the Recreation Committee, J. N. "Bus" Murdoch, a native son and all-round athlete, supervises the civic-sponsored program of sports and recreation, assisted by 15 regular employees. In 1933, at the age of 13, he won the Calgary Stampede Championship as the youngest contestant, after competing five years as a bareback rider, and was presented to the late Lord Tweedsmuir. In 1940 he won the Canadian Middleweight Boxing Championship. During World War II he spent four years in the R.C.A.F. as physical trainer and sports organizer.

The effectiveness of the sports and recreation program he set afoot is demonstrated by the fact that of this community of 23,500 souls the 1951 sport and recreation club memberships totalled 11,384, practically 50 per cent of the population!

The recreation program is all-inclusive, and for the second successive season the recreation department spread its wings still further, thanks to the energetic resourcefulness of "Bus" Murdoch, and embraced an exhibition of every phase of its colorful activities. This week-long production, known as "Recreation Week," got off to a flying start on Saturday, May 5, with a spirited western hoe-down, attended by 15 mayors from adjacent towns, and a senator from Montana. To the lilting strains of Les Handley's Happy Homesteaders old-



A group of Lethbridge girls in the gym.

timers of southern Alberta and veterans of the old Fort Benton Trail, to the number of 1,500, tripped the light fantastic with poke-bonneted partners in a style reminiscent of the old bullock-train days of pioneering.

On Monday the author, assisted by befeathered chiefs and warriors of the Blackfoot nation, staged a colorful pageant and dramatized an old-time buffalo hunt, the expulsion of whiskey traders by the North-West Mounted Police from Fort Whoop-Up, and the signing of Treaty No. 7 at Blackfoot Crossing by Chief Crowfoot, the "statesman in paint and blanket." On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday musical pageants and revues displayed to surprised and enthusiastic audiences the wealth of outstanding talent lying dormant in the district. Impersonating elephants, giraffes, horses, lions, wild-men, acrobats and clowns, 1,000 children presented the "Playground Circus" on Friday night to a house full to overflowing.

Next morning the same youngsters

staged a "Circus Parade." Headed by a homemade calliope, five to ten-year-old acrobats, clowns, rough-riders, and cow-girls with swirling lariats took the city by storm as they paraded and cavorted to the rousing music of a teen-aged band. On Saturday night, May 12, the gala week ended with a mammoth and colorful *Mardi Gras*. It was a week of unexampled joy for the youngsters who took part in all the productions—a week of record attendance which indicated most of the city turned out.

In this tangible way the City of Lethbridge, home of the Maple Leafs, World Champion Hockey Players, is demonstrating in no uncertain way that the answer to the problem of juvenile delinquency has been found, that the money invested in recreational facilities is paying good dividends in keeping the youth of the city occupied and interested in healthful pursuits which have no age barriers since both parents and children alike are sharing common interests.

Auctioneers

Continued from page 7

The healthy rivalry between Calgary and Edmonton is a guarantee that any good idea originating in either place will soon be adopted in the other. With auction marketing Edmonton fell in line quickly. After a period which can still be conveniently measured in months, 75 per cent of the cattle coming into Edmonton are auctioned and the trend is up. The figures would probably be higher but for the neutral attitude of one of the larger commission firms.

THE Edmontonians are making an interesting discovery. With the cattle population of the tributary territory declining, receipts at the central stockyards are relatively high. Due to the following causes.

Direct buying by packers has always been heavy in this part of the West. Undoubtedly it has declined under the influence of auction selling. Why wouldn't it? Bargaining on the farm is always an unequal battle because the buyer is better informed about the immediate state of the market. The producer can never tell for sure how far he can press his case. At the central market the packers, equally well armed, fight it out with one another.

A second hope for increased receipts at central markets is the decline of community auctions. They served their purpose in the scheme of evolution but they have their disadvantage. There is no guarantee beforehand that enough stock will be offered to make a good sale. Anticipating a small sale, buying support may be weak. At the central stockyards there is always an active market.

Edmonton is also experiencing a brisk business in the auctioning of unfinished cattle. A considerable number are being consigned by packers who, in order to get the cattle they want, will buy numbers of animals not ready for killing. The unwanted animals then go to the auction market for disposal.

AS the Saskatoon stockyards company is a subsidiary of the Edmonton stockyards, it is only to be expected that auction marketing

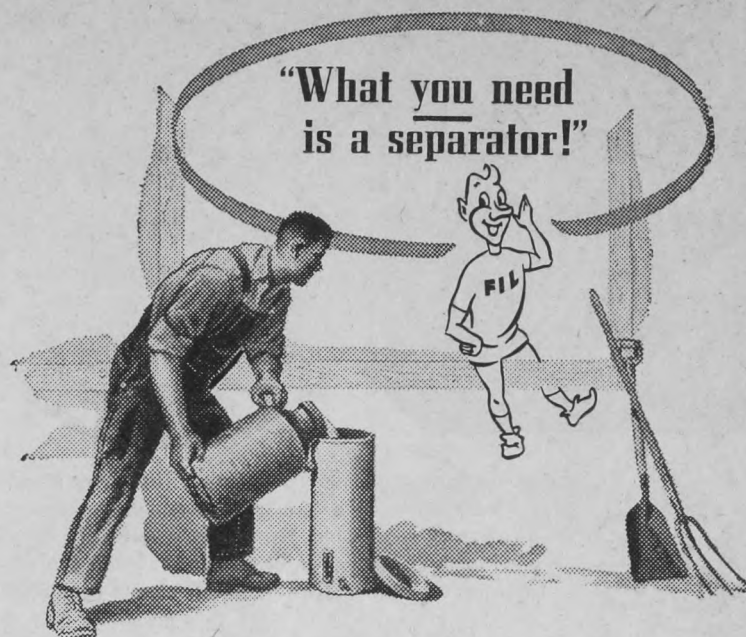
spread rapidly to Saskatchewan as soon as its success was assured in the Oil City. The first auction sale at Saskatoon was held on September 7, 1950. By midsummer this year one could find a greater degree of enthusiasm here than anywhere, as well there might be, for their receipts mounted steadily. Part of this was due to the fact that Regina and Moose Jaw markets lagged behind Saskatoon in the adoption of auction selling, and the northern city attracted farm cattle away from them, so definitely is farm support in favor of it. The two southern centers have since provided for auction selling so that this gain may not be permanent.

A. D. Munro, government inspector at Saskatoon, hit the nail on the head when asked to explain the rapid conversion of stock growers. "Farmers like it," he said, "because it has removed all grounds for suspicion. The cattle owner can sit at the ringside and see his stock sold. If the commission agent handling his stock is dissatisfied with the bids offered, he may withdraw a draft from the sale, offering it again at a later time. That rarely happens, however."

The Saskatoon market has, perhaps, the highest percentage of truck arrivals in the West. In March when roads are at their worst, half the stock may come by rail, but open weather which prevails at the time of the highest run usually sees five head of stock arriving by truck for every animal railed in. A high percentage of the trucks are farmer-owned. Your reporter took the opportunity this affords for sampling farm opinion at the unloading chutes.

A. E. Wagner had come in 93 miles that morning from Ruthilda. He calculated that he would be all through within two hours after arrival, so quickly do cattle move through the auction ring. He could not have approached that record under the old system of sale by private treaty. He is definitely for the new method.

Listen to K. Senger of Elstow, another arrival on the same day. "Auction selling is the fairest method. Every one of the seven buyers on hand this morning sees every animal under the same circumstances and has a chance to bid on every one of them.



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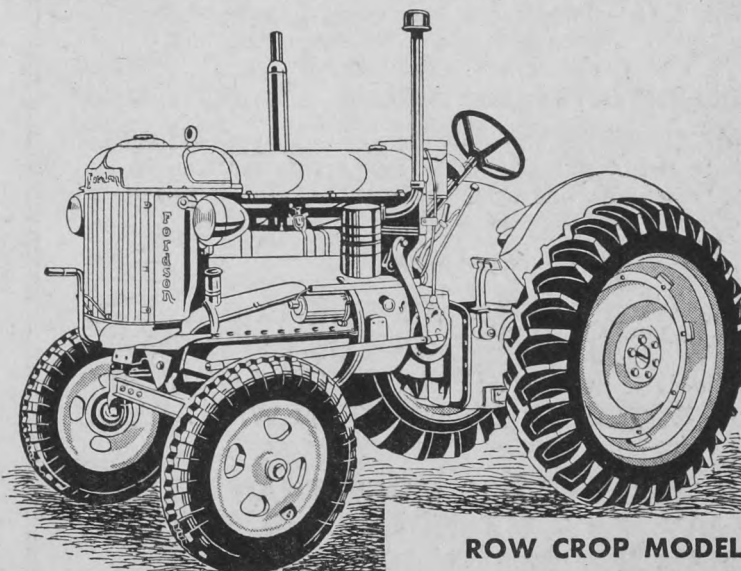
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SASKATCHEWAN HOSPITAL SERVICES PLAN

Every grower sees every transaction out in the open."

E. D. Baldwin of Kingsland, backing into the next chute, declared he would be free to go back home by noon. Under the old dispensation he would frequently be hanging around until four o'clock for a settlement.

Saskatoon operates under one difficulty. As one moves east and north from Calgary, he encounters more of what the Albertans contemptuously refer to as "dogies." There is less uniformity in breeding and finish. When lots arrive at the stockyards, the commission agents to whom they are consigned break them down into smaller

numerous sheep ranches, providing a high percentage of the sheep arrivals at public markets. And the rancher is a conservative par excellence.

There is no doubt but what farm support for auction selling of livestock is based on the conviction that it brings the grower higher prices. On the day of this reporter's visit to Calgary stockyards—picking one day at random—choice steers were selling for 37½ cents. The Chicago top price on that day was 37 cents. It is a new thing when Alberta stockgrowers can get a better price at the front door than they can by lugging cattle out the back gate 1,000 miles to market!



Trucks unloading cattle to be auctioned at the Saskatoon stockyards.

drafts of approximately equal quality. As they appear in the ring the drafts at Saskatoon average 1.1 animals, whereas at Edmonton they average 1.5, and at Calgary 1.9. Nevertheless, the three auctioneers who take turns in the box at Saskatoon will dispose of as many as 80 drafts in an hour, and the day's offering is invariably cleaned up before the close of selling.

At all markets operators agree that there are fewer leftovers than under sale by private treaty. In the old days, said one Calgary operator, we used to have tail-enders hanging around here for as long as a couple of weeks, while commission agents—vainly tried to work them off by including them in lots of slightly better cattle. Nowadays they sell promptly for what they are worth. It may not be much, relatively speaking, but they do not stick around and run up a feed bill.

LETHBRIDGE actually preceded Calgary in its first public auction, as its first sale was held on May 31, 1950, when 245 cattle went under the hammer. Because of lighter receipts, however, the development of regular and continuous auction selling lagged behind that in the larger cities. Auction sales are now held there daily from Tuesdays to Fridays inclusive, and on Saturdays when there are any stock available. As 80 per cent of the stock arriving on these yards are now auctioned it looks as though the majority of local growers are converted to the idea.

Unlike Saskatoon, where sheep are auctioned, the Alberta centers still sell sheep by private treaty. There is no reason why sheep cannot be auctioned like cattle, but in Alberta there are

Of course, this is far from proving that auction selling is responsible for the price situation as of June 14. People are inclined to jump at the conclusion that a new system of marketing always brings higher prices. On a rising market, perhaps. How will popular support for auction selling weather a period of falling prices? There will be a babel of tongues to cry with just as little reason that auction marketing was responsible for the decline. The complete story can only be told after cattle prices have gone through a complete cycle. Until then cautious growers will regard it as an experiment, no matter how favorable.

Nevertheless, there are competent observers, like W. G. Dunsmore federal government markets supervisor at Calgary, who believe that auction selling is bound to, and does, raise prices because nobody is kept out of the buying by priorities.

Down to this point in the story, the picture must be a glowing one. What about the Winnipeg market, the largest primary market in Canada, where auction selling seems to be as far away as ever?

Here are some of the opinions you will hear expressed in Winnipeg.

Most everybody on the St. Boniface yards will declare he has an open mind on the subject, and will give auction selling a try as soon as there is an unmistakable demand for it. Up to the present growers shipping to this market are silent.

But the Winnipeg trade will add that they aren't convinced themselves. Winnipeg's peak receipts are nearly three times as heavy as Calgary's. It

would take six auction rings to clear the flow of cattle passing through this yard at the season of heavy run. It would, the trade claims, immediately establish different price levels at the different rings, which would promptly raise a storm of protest.

As an aside, it should be said that this was prophesied when the second ring was established at Calgary. Chas. Kennedy, manager at the Calgary yards, declares, "surprisingly this did not happen."

While packers can and do employ half a dozen buyers each on the Winnipeg yards, and could keep a man permanently at each of the rings which would have to be set up, many buying interests in the East and South have only one man in Winnipeg. These representatives could only attend one ring at a time, and would never know which ring would be most likely to present the particular class of cattle they happened to be interested in at the moment.

Why not earmark each ring for a particular class of cattle?

"Couldn't be done," says Earl Watson, Winnipeg stockyards manager. "In a small stockyards, yes. In a place like this the amount of cross traffic it would entail would lead to indescribable confusion and delay. A new stockyards could be planned to escape cross traffic going from every one of the alleys to every one of the rings, but in an established place like this which has grown by steady accretion, we would be faced by the necessity for structural changes. In addition, our operating costs would go up. At markets where auction selling has become established, operators admit a significant increase.

"Right here in these yards," says Mr. Watson, "we have a monument to auction selling which makes us stop and reflect. Upon the insistence of Dean Shaw of Ottawa's marketing division we built a fine auction ring in 1938 in anticipation that this method of selling would become popular. We gave it a trial. The pool put about 400 cattle through the ring. The prices bid were so low that most of the cattle had to be withdrawn. Today the only use for that ring is to sell dairy cows on one day of each year."

One of the big operators on the Winnipeg yards says, "I went out to Calgary to get a good look at auction selling. Right from the first I felt uneasy because of the discrepancy between the numbers of cattle arriving on the yards and the number going through the auction ring. When more cattle are sold in the ring than arrive in the yards it is an indication that some cattle are going through the ring twice. If many go through twice it means that some scalpers are buying animals cheap and turning them over for a profit that ought to go to the original producer. It might mean that

the auctioneers don't know their job, or it might mean collusion between buyers, or it might be something else we don't know."

Other Winnipeg yards' characters make a point that crooked auction sales are no new thing. The main reason for displacing sale by private treaty is because of distrust, largely unfounded. To junk the old system would be merely to fly from ills we can detect to those we know not of.

SPEAK to these men about the high trust in which British livestock auctioneers are held and the integrity that guards their sales. You will get this answer.

"The British auctioneer spends a long apprenticeship learning livestock values. Without reflecting against the capacity of Canadian auctioneers we just couldn't recruit a corps of men such as you would find on any of the large British markets. Under sale by private treaty we employ men who know the value of a beast to a dime. We'd prefer to take a chance on what they can wring from buyers than to depend on auctioneers who can't match their skill."

Some men around the yard pooh-pooh the idea that auction selling has raised prices. "We've had cattle brought in here which have been sold at auction at Battleford and elsewhere, and we've resold them at substantially higher prices by private treaty."

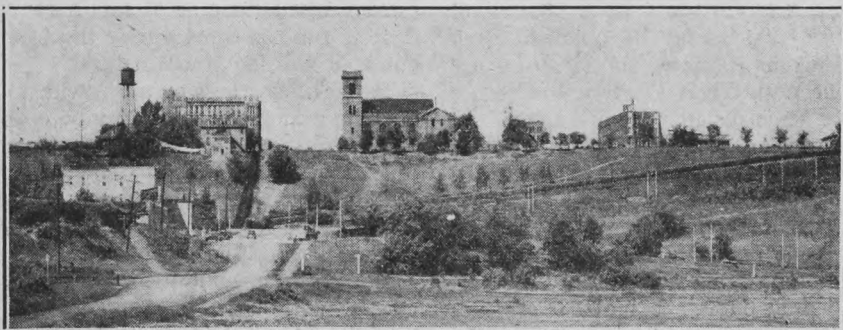
"Look here," another one says, "You can't make me believe that the packers are going to support a system which is going to raise the price of the cattle they buy. And there isn't any doubt, they have been friendly to the auction selling system."

"What about that?" a well-known packer's representative was asked.

"We don't care what the price of cattle happens to be," was his reply. "We operate on the margin between the price of stock on the hoof and retail meat prices. If we have to pay more for our cattle the consumer will have to pay more for his beef. We'll buy under any system the producers want."

It would be unfair to represent the trade in Winnipeg as actively hostile to auction marketing. It would be more correct to say that they are skeptical about its adaptability to so large a market. Local community sales, they will tell you, are known all over the American northwest, yet none of their large public markets have adopted it. And their reasons for not doing so are the same as the ones which make us hesitate.

That is the evidence of today, pro and con. The experiment which started haltingly at Lethbridge now moves with confident strides, but is still a long way from the finishing tape. Its progress will be watched with keen interest by herd owners large and small.



McDougall Hill, Edmonton. On this site, Rev. Geo. McDougall, pioneer missionary, made the prediction recorded on page 33.



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Trapping Wily Furbearers

*A man who knows his business gives a few tips on
capturing some of the smartest of our wild animals*

by B. G. ROBERTS

THE fox is a suspicious fellow, and as he possesses a nose second to none, he is hard to trap. All traps intended for fox should be boiled in clean water and buried in the ground for a few days before being set out. Clean canvas or leather gloves should be worn when setting and handling traps.

In the fall and early winter I make sets for this animal by finding a fox trail and locating a rock, dead stump, or bunch of grass nearby to use for a scent post. If such cannot be found handily, I place a large rock near the trail to use for a scent post.

I carry a piece of canvas about a yard square to stand on while setting my traps, and when I have located my scent post, I spread the canvas on the ground by the side of it.

I use either a steel stake about 16 inches long, or a two-prong steel drag

tracks, and everything will look natural around the set.

RACCOON and mink usually are found in the vicinity of lakes or streams where they go in search of food. Traps intended for their capture are placed in or near the water.

Before the streams and lakes freeze, blind sets may be made by finding where the animal enters or leaves the water and setting the trap in shallow water so the animal will be forced to go over it. I fasten my trap chain to a flat stone or green pole weighing about ten pounds and lay this in the water on the opposite side of the trap from the bank. I cover trap and drag lightly with water-soaked leaves.

While setting the trap, I stand in the water, touching nothing on the bank with my bare hands, and after the set is completed, I wade some



The author scraping a muskrat skin in front of his cabin, with the paraphernalia and spoils of the chase around him.

to fasten the trap. If in open country, I use the stake, but if it is brushy enough so that the trapped animal will hang up before going far, I use the drag. I wire the trap chain to the stake or drag, and dig a hole so the jaws of the trap are slightly below the ground surface.

If a stake is used for fastening, I drive it into the ground in the bottom of the hole. If a drag is used, it is placed in the bottom of the hole. The trap is placed on top of the stake or drag, and a pan cover is placed over the pan and between the jaws of the trap.

While digging a hole for the trap, all dirt taken from it is placed on top of the canvas upon which I stand. Be sure no gravel or lump of dirt is left on top of the jaws to clog the trap.

After the trap is covered, I sprinkle a few drops of fox urine or other good scent (which may be obtained from dealers in trappers' supplies) on my scent post. Then I carry all dirt not used some distance from the trap and the trail and scatter it on the ground. Nothing in the vicinity is touched with bare hands.

After snow falls, traps may be set at scent posts by fastening them to two-prong drags and pushing the trap and drag under the snow. If sets can be made during a snow storm, the falling snow will cover both trap and

distance from the trap before returning to the bank.

I make bait sets for these animals by building cubbies or bait-houses of rocks or logs in shallow water, near drifts or large rocks near the bank. They should be about two feet long, a foot high, and a foot wide. The top should be covered over, and the end next to the bank left open.

I fasten the trap to a drag and set my trap in the open end, covering trap and drag with wet leaves.

A small stone that extends above the water is placed in the back of the bait-house and bait is put on top of it. Fresh fish is the best bait, but canned salmon or sardines are good.

If these bait-houses can be built a few weeks in advance of the trapping season, the animals will become accustomed to them and will not be so suspicious when the trap is set. Also, if drift or trash is thrown over the bait-house, it will look more natural.

Large hollow logs or trees, with an opening near the ground, may be used for bait sets even after the appearance of bad weather. The trap chain may be stapled to the outside of the log or tree and the trap set just inside, with the bait beyond the trap.

If traps are set out of the water and covered with leaves or other material, they should be boiled, and gloves worn when setting them.

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OIL FILTER	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
POSITIVE PRESSURE LUBRICATION	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
CHAIN CAMSHAFT DRIVE	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
OIL-BATH AIR CLEANER	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
FLOATING OIL INTAKE	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
DUAL AUTOMATIC SPARK CONTROL	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
BY-PASS WATER CIRCULATION	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
PRECISION CONNECTING ROD BEARINGS	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
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The Beautiful and Enduring Peony

A peony enthusiast writes a practical account of peony growing, which in brief language, covers all the important points to remember

by MARGARET FOSTER

Arnoldus Villanova
Six hundred years ago
Said peonies have magic,
And I believe it so.

—BLISS CARMAN.

ONE sometimes hears the peony called the rival of the rose. Many of us could never so consider it, and yet we gladly give the peony second place. Absolutely hardy, with a delightful range of colors, and some of the varieties deliciously fragrant, when properly cared for it lasts a lifetime and gives great satisfaction.

Perhaps the most consistent piece of advice given with regard to peonies is that they must not be planted too deep. While this is quite true (in fact, a deeply planted peony will probably never bloom), yet the other most important point, that they must have plenty of moisture, may be barely mentioned. This, I think, is the explanation of much of the difficulty in getting them to bloom. Other plants, such as the rose and dahlia, show their lack of sufficient moisture immediately in general appearance, but

eyes to each division, and cut with a sharp knife.

PARTIAL shade is quite satisfactory for peonies, but they must have sun at least some of the day. Good drainage is important. Make the holes 30 inches across and two feet deep. Put a foot of good rich soil into the hole. Rotted cow manure is best of all fertilizers for peonies, but it must be thoroughly rotted and black, and well mixed with soil. Add a small shovelful of wood ashes and a handful of bone meal, also a sprinkling of lime if your soil is naturally acid. Tramp well and soak thoroughly with water, unless the soil is already quite moist. Fill in with good topsoil, putting the root in place, keeping all firm, and remembering that the crown must be just two inches from the surface when all is done. Never guess at the depth—use a yardstick.

A large peony plant, developing heavy bloom, must have support. It is best to put this in place early, before the weight of the buds pulls the stems down. A circular wire support is



(Photo by Paul Hadley)

No showier or more pleasing flower is available for early mid-season show than the peony, which comes in a variety of colors, and blooms profusely.

the peony maintains her glossy green foliage and evident thrift: yet without more moisture, no blooms will be produced.

The peony is a shy child. Taken as a division from the parent root and properly planted in September, she will bear a bloom or two next summer, and make a fair growth, but not for a year or two will she really show what she can do. The truth is that the peony does not like to be moved—not until the fourth year will she reach the peak of her performance. After the crest has been gained we see some reduction in quality of bloom, and division may, therefore, be desirable. It is best, nevertheless, to divide only a part of the plant each year, so that one is never without perfect plants.

To avoid injury to the roots, two people should dig with forks opposite one another, inserting the fork at least 15 inches from the stem. Go deep, and use great care; lift out the ball of earth, then leave in the air a half day to reduce brittleness. Wash off the earth. Bend the clump to find its natural dividing places. Leave four

ideal, but one can manage with stakes. Have plenty, because each blossoming branch will need its own stake. For tying material, you may use discarded silk or lisle stockings cut in crosswise strips a half-inch wide. These are very strong, but soft so that there is no bruising of the stems. These strips may be dyed green, if desired.

Now for the watering. As soon as the plant has made nice growth, and before any buds have formed, make a depression in the soil, a foot away from the stems; and into this depression, three times a week, pour a half pail of water.

As to varieties, there are colors and types to suit every taste. Festiva Maxima, perhaps the best white bloom, large, early, strong grower, fine for cut flowers; Auguste Dessert, with its huge, velvety crimson cup-shaped blooms; Monsieur Jules Elie, the sweetest-scented in my garden, with immense globe-shaped blooms of silvery lilac-rose. If you are fond of peonies, you should have these at least. New ones appear every year in a dazzling array of colors.



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	MEN	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN
21	\$12.84	\$15.00	\$18.48	\$21.12
25	15.24	17.64	22.08	25.20
30	18.96	22.08	28.08	32.16
35	24.12	28.08	36.60	41.88
40	31.44	36.60	49.68	56.88
45	42.60	49.68	71.76	82.08
50	61.56	71.64	116.40	133.20

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May 21, 1951.

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Dear Sirs,

I have used aluminum cooking utensils for the past twenty-four years and they are still as good as new.

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I heartily endorse the cooking qualities of aluminum utensils and believe they are indispensable for the modern homemaker.

Mrs. Florence Sutton

Mrs. Florence Sutton,

"The proof's in the eating"...

AGREE THREE SMILING GENERATIONS

Good cooks are proud of their favourite recipes. And when they find utensils that cook food well, preserve flavour and quality, and clean easily, they're proud of them, too. That's why so many homemakers write in to tell us about their aluminum utensils. Aluminum has been a Canadian kitchen favourite for half a century. So many mothers do more than teach their daughters to cook; they teach them to use good utensils, too!

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ALUMINUM COMPANY OF CANADA, LTD.

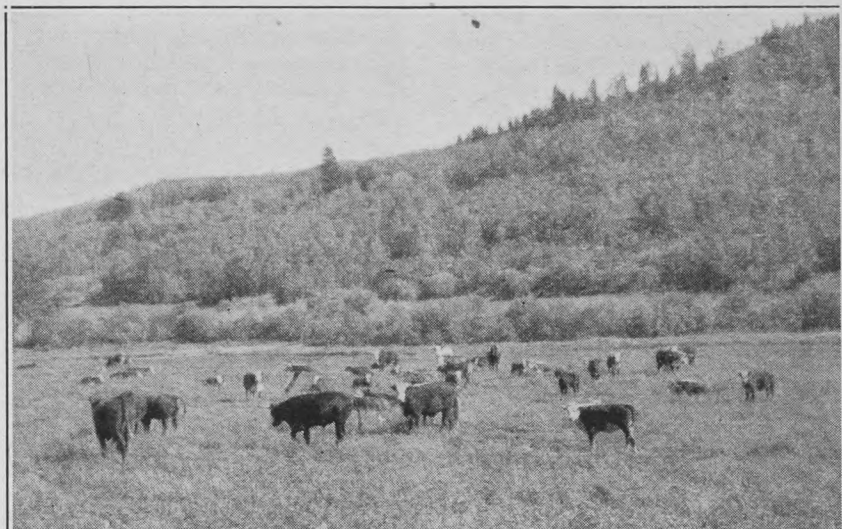
Foothills Country

Three million acres of range lie east of the Rockies and represents Canada's best grazing land

ONE of the most pleasing experiences incidental to a 5,500-mile trip across the four western provinces this year involved two days of what really amounted to sight-seeing in the Foothills country west of High River, Nanton, Claresholm and Macleod, in Alberta.

One of these days was spent in an all-day, 300-mile Sunday picnic, on which I was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Hargrave, of the Lethbridge Experimental Station, and their friends. We first visited the ranch of S. C. (Bud) Williams, about 30 miles northeast of Macleod; then crossed to Claresholm and drove west into the Foothills, having our picnic lunch alongside a fast-flowing mountain stream on the Burns 44 Ranch.

least) by Guy Weadick. We were in search of the old Cook Ranch, now owned by a rancher named Tjebbes from Grand Forks, B.C., who last spring transferred to the ranch 500 head of Hereford cattle, including 200 cows bred to Brahma bulls. Five Brahma bulls were sent with the herd, which we found seven miles from the ranch, grazing in a forest reserve. We were not able to see all of the 130 cross-bred calves but we saw many of them. They are a sturdy, growthy lot of mixed colors, but all showing the drooping Brahma ears. It is a rather curious fact that such cross-bred calves are quite small at birth; but develop rapidly; and when we saw them on the eighth of August they were long-bodied, strong-boned, rugged calves,



Cattle grazing on the rich foothills pasture of the Burton Ranch west of Claresholm, Alta.

After lunch, we went on through "44" to the Pat Burton Ranch, where we saw his cross-bred Brahma cattle pasturing beside the trail, and where I also recall seeing a lush hay meadow, shoulder-high with grass ready for the mower.

Guided by the range-bred instinct of Harry Hargrave for finding the right trail, we worked our way over the next range of hills west into another valley where, as I recall it, we went through the old Porter Ranch, and afterward the old Waldron (now Miller) Ranch. On this ranch, too, we saw at a distance a couple of Brahma bulls with the herd.

From the Waldron, we circled back along the valley of the Oldman River to the gap through which it penetrates eastward through the hills; and after negotiating our way along the narrow track and eventually crossing a bridge over the river, we had our picnic supper on the west side of the Oldman River, near the new highway running north through the Foothills close to the mountains from Coleman up to Kananaskis on the Calgary-Banff highway.

After our supper, we followed this new road to Coleman and back to Macleod.

Two or three days later, I was able to accompany Harry Hargrave on a trip through more Foothills country between High River and Nanton. We struck westward from High River, more or less following the course of the Highwood River. Farther on, the valley of this river is very scenic, particularly at the location of the Stampede Ranch, owned (until recently at

which gave promise of becoming big growthy steers.

During the day, we were able to visit the E.P. Ranch, owned by the Duke of Windsor; the old Bar-U (now broken up); and the very large ranching establishment of R. R. (Rod) McClay. Mr. McClay is probably one of the most extensive ranchers in all of western Canada, and certainly in the Foothills country. Now, I suspect, well into his seventies, he has been ranching in the same location for 52 years, having taken up his first 160-acre homestead in 1899. He came West from near Danville, Quebec, and after securing his homestead, did what everybody else did at the time, namely, made free use of all the surrounding range.

How large the McClay spread is at the present time is perhaps unimportant. He is credited with running about 5,000 head of cattle, which at an average of about 800 pounds weight and 25 cents per pound on the market, would mean a million dollars on the hoof. Mr. McClay farms about 3,000 acres, cropping 1,500 acres each year, and claims that the land in that area is among the best farming land in Alberta.

It is common practice in the Foothills country to summer pasture many of the cattle in the forest reserves. This saves the pastures near the headquarters of the ranchers for winter grazing.

South of the Highwood River the grass looks to be richer and heavier, and the soil somewhat deeper. I made some inquiry as to what Foothills

ranch land might be worth per acre, and I obtained the impression that \$30 per acre might be considered a conservative figure for really good range land. I understand that when the old Bar-U Ranch was broken up, some unbroken range was sold for as high as \$45 per acre.

I EXPECT that no one needs to be told that the last few years, especially, have not been normal years in the ranching business. An illustration of this was given me by George Chat-toway, McClay's son-in-law, who runs about 300 head of cattle on eight sections, around five miles from the McClay headquarters. He had a half-section east of the McClay Ranch, which he had seeded down to crested wheat grass, and then sold after taking off several crops of seed. In the meantime, he had paid for the place, received 25 per cent interest on the money invested, and sold it for two and one-half times what he paid for it.

Another aspect of high beef prices, however, is the effect on inventory values. A thousand head of 800-pound cattle means 800,000 pounds of beef, or, \$240,000 worth of 30-cent cattle. A drop of one cent per pound on the market would mean \$8,000, and this of course accounts for the fact that prudent ranchers are now interested in getting their market stock away as soon as it is ready and keeping their herds pretty well sold off.

Most of the ranching is confined in the Foothills region to that portion south of the Bow River. Soils of poorer quality, heavy bush and timber, and deep snow in winter, have kept the northern area from much development in this direction. The rolling hills of the Foothills region fringe the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains all the way from the international boundary to the Peace River. The ranching area lies mostly in the shallow black and black soil zones, and contains about 3,000,000 acres of grazing land, about half of which lies within the forest reserves and national parks. Within this area, broad valleys with deep black soil are guarded by ranges of steeply rolling hills. The general altitude is about 3,000 feet. Many of the hills are broadly rounded, and occasionally there are benchlands suitable for cultivation or for native hayfields. On the higher levels, the soils are lighter loams, and gravel and rock out-crops are common.

Summer temperatures are moderate. There is a low rate of evaporation, and the climate is generally sub-humid, annual precipitation ranging from 15 to 19 inches.

In winter, the snowfall is often heavy, and is retained on the bush-covered northern slopes. But the

chinook winds which are common in southern Alberta sweep the more open southern slopes clear and make winter pasturage available. There is also plenty of stock water from dependable springs and creeks, so that it is possible to make use of practically all of the range.

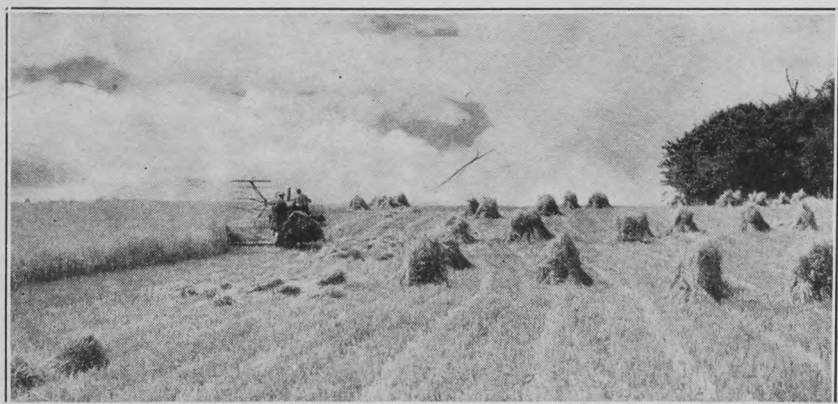
The principal grasses are rough fescue, Parry's oatgrass, and June grass. Dense willow brush is found in some valleys and on northern slopes. Poplar bluffs are common, and at the higher elevations on the shallow, gravelly soils, conifers are present.

Of the six principal ranching areas in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, the Foothills provide the greatest carrying capacity, partly because of satisfactory crop and forage yields, and the lesser hazard during winter. Wheat matures in the lower altitude as a satisfactory cash crop, though the grade is frequently affected by snow and frost.

This year, the Foothills everywhere presented a picture of extraordinary beauty. Everywhere, one hears stories of the amount of rainfall during April and July. Instead of the normal 15 to 19 inches for the year, George Chat-toway said that his ranch had had 18 inches between April and the end of June. Early in June there was a snow-fall of around 16 inches or more, and at Lethbridge a little more snow on the 26th. There was some rainfall this year up to 24 and even to 30 inches, some said, but I did not check their accuracy.

Whatever the precipitation, no rancher or tourist could ask for a prettier sight than the broad carpets of green grass which nature has provided this year, right up to the very tops of the tall hills. With the cattle away during the summer in the forest reserves, and with hay in abundance, these green-clad hills could undoubtedly winter many more cattle than would normally be put on them. The wise rancher will no doubt regard this excess pasture as a form of involuntary conservation imposed by nature. Any tendency toward over-grazing, under normal pasture conditions, will be replaced this year by a sort of enforced undergrazing. Soil and the vegetative cover will benefit, and the ranchers should benefit next year.

Of such is the Foothills country. It is deceptive, because of the fact that its existence would hardly be suspected from the more open country to the east. Fold upon fold of the Foothills lie hidden from the eye of the uninitiated. Its swift-flowing streams and rich bottom lands are a surprise. Its beauty is a bonus, appreciated all the more because it is unexpected.—H.S.F.



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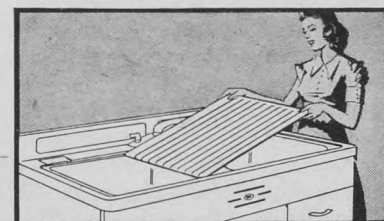
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LEAVES HANDS SOFT, LOVELY



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"Phantom" view shows extra-deep laundry bowl, left, and generous kitchen bowl, right.



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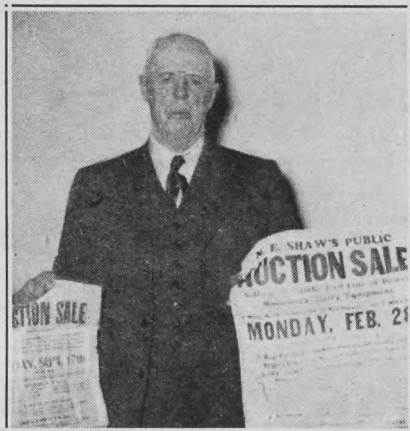
Blindman Valley Salesman

An auctioneer for 42 years in Alberta,
C. F. Damron has sold 3,000 sales

IF you want advice on auction sales take a trip to Bentley, Alberta, and talk to C. F. Damron. He should be able to give advice. There is no evidence of his ever having sold at fur auctions in Montreal or diamond sales in Amsterdam, but he has handled almost every other kind of sale.

"I guess I have sold 3,000 auction sales in the time I have been in the business," he told The Guide. "One year I sold 128 sales."

Some of these sales involve important transactions, too. He has been one



C. F. Damron, auctioneer.

of the auctioneers at the Calgary Bull Sale for 25 years, and has been boss auctioneer at the Lacombe Bull Sale for no less than 31 years.

By next March Damron will have been picking up his mail at the post office in Bentley for 50 years. Born in Illinois and raised at Omaha, Nebraska, he did a stint at the stockyards in Omaha, and moved to a homestead in the Blindman Valley west of Lacombe, just after the turn of the century. Five years later he and a brother opened a meat market in Bentley. On September 17, 1909, he sold his first farm sale.

Present day auctioning is sissy stuff to Damron. Back in the homestead years an auctioneer thought nothing of driving his team as much as 35 or 40 miles to a sale, barking his wares all afternoon, and then driving home at night. Tiring? Perhaps, but it was all in the day's work.

Some of these trips to sales were worse than others, of course. He recollects vividly the time he completed one sale at 7:30 in the evening and was plying his trade 80 miles away at 10:00 o'clock the next morning. What makes the occasion memorable was the temperature. It was 30 below and he used three teams for the trip.

One other time he drove from Bentley to Bullocksville down on the Red Deer River, 43 miles away. It was 35 below at noon, and 48 below when he got back to Lacombe at 11 o'clock that night. Then there was the time he drove from six in the evening until one o'clock in the morning, using three teams, and made a total distance of 13 miles. That was in 1920, the year of the big snow in the valley. The chinook-softened snow lay three or four feet deep, and the horses floundered at belly level.

DAMRON is proud of the fact that he was one of the originators of the Lacombe Farmers' Horse Sale, started in 1924. It was held every year until 1950, and Damron was boss

auctioneer at every one. By 1951 horses had petered out to the point where it did not seem to be worth while holding the sale.

The Lacombe horse sale was the biggest in Alberta, and the biggest of its kind in Canada—a sale of farmers' horses, intended for draft work. In some of the bigger sales there were as many as 1,200 horses listed. Damron sold the first horse at the 1924 sale and the last one at the sale in 1950.

One of the large sales held in Lacombe was in March of 1939. There were 1,036 horses listed, and they sold for the comfortable sum of \$82,091.50. The average of the sale was \$79.24, the top horse brought \$200, and the top team, \$480. It was a three-day sale, with 13 stallions the last to be offered—selling for a total of \$2,640. That was in the dying days of the horse era, before their position was entirely usurped by the encroaching tractor.

The highest price for which Damron has ever knocked down a team of work horses was \$815—"a pair of bay Belgian mares at the farm of old John Rathe at Lacombe." He has sold cows for more. In 1948 he let a grade Holstein cow go for \$410, and sold her and the other 28 cows in the sale for \$10,000. In 1943 he and an assistant sold the first 80 head in the C.P.R. dispersion sale for an average of \$605, and sold a bull for the top price of \$5,000. In 1943 those were big prices.

"What advice would you give to anyone who was going to have his farm goods auctioned?" Damron was asked.

"Well," he replied, "the first thing is to see that the sale is well advertised. People won't be there if they don't know the sale is being held."

"The goods to be sold need to be well organized also. The customers should be able to see them, and the auctioneer needs to be able to get at them. Similar items should be

grouped. Machinery should be in good repair and well painted. Cattle should be numbered and pigs sold out of numbered pens.

"I feel that a lunch should be served," he continued. "It makes people feel you are trying to entertain them. There is a different feeling altogether when you are selling to people who have had a good lunch and hot coffee."

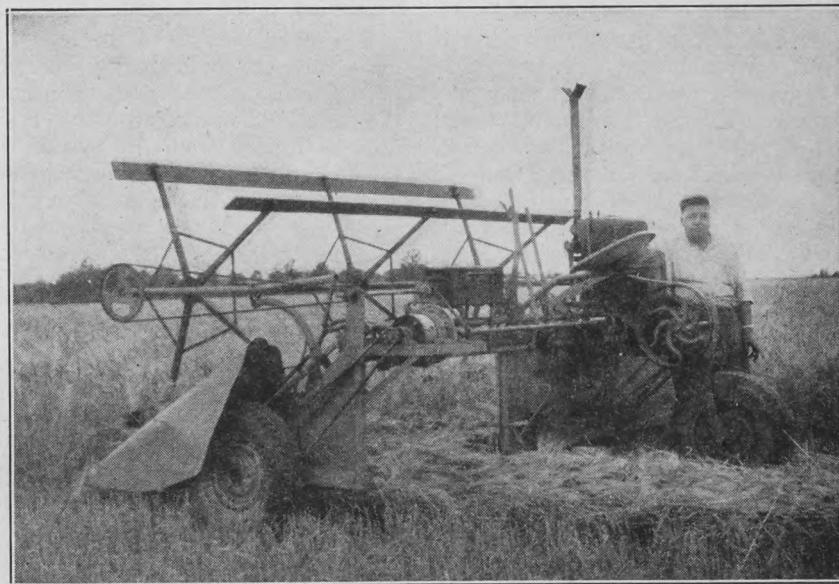
In spite of his 3,000 sales Damron has managed to have other interests in the community. He has been buying and selling cattle since he was 14 years old—then a hand on the Omaha stockyards. He bred registered Short-horns from 1902 until 1919. In 1940 he bought foundation stock for a pure-bred Hereford herd, but has since turned these and the farm over to a son.

He has also bought feeder cattle from time to time. In one transaction in 1923 he bought nine carloads—254 head—of stocker cows. They were laid down in Bentley at a cost of \$15.40 each. "I fed those cows all winter, sold them for 2½ cents a pound in the spring of 1924, and never made a cent on the deal." However, other transactions made up for this disappointment.

Damron has been an officer of the Central Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association for 20 years, and is currently vice-president. He was president of the Lacombe Agricultural Society for ten years, and chairman of the school board in the Oxford School District for 31 consecutive years—from 1914 to 1945.

For 50 years, from the vantage point of the auctioneer's post, C. F. Damron has observed the Blindman Valley. He watched the land being broken, he saw the horses coming in and he saw them going out again, as tractors smoked and snorted across the valley. He has seen good men and good livestock come and go, but his valley endures and will always be a part of him.—R.H.

Self-Propelled Swather



[Guide photo]

Nick Toffin (above) has made 11 self-propelled swathers in his shop in Winnipeg since 1947, but this is the only one that he feels incorporates the principles needed in such a machine. The machine has a 13-foot cutter bar, will swath eight to nine acres an hour. Power is from a 12 h.p. two cylinder, Wisconsin air-cooled motor, which uses about seven gallons of gasoline in a ten-hour day. Inventor Toffin is satisfied he has a good machine, will go into production with it next year; he will not estimate a probable selling price.

Farming and the Common Cold

Some facts as to cause and prevention of the annoying and dangerous common cold

by DR. W. SCHWEISHEIMER

OUTDOOR workers (farmers, fishermen) are particularly inclined to contract colds and rheumatic ailments. There is no doubt about the cause. Farming demands exposure to the open air, regardless of weather conditions — regardless of draught, cold and humid weather. Wet clothes cannot be changed during work. The wind, blowing toward a certain spot of the body, is still more suited to produce a rheumatic ailment.

Recent research work has shown that everybody has, on the average, between three and four colds a year. Many farmers are hardened against weather conditions. Colds, in American industry, cause the loss of 100,000,000 working days each year. They reach their highest peak in December and January—and a lesser peak in October—an obvious connection with cold weather. Sudden drops in temperature are followed by rises in both the incidence and severity of colds.

The largest number of colds, according to Dr. Kler, occurs in the 20 to 29-year age group, the lowest in the age group above 50 years; the latter are more serious. He stated that smoking had little effect on colds.

In a dusty, smelly barn a farmer catches cold easier than in a well-

ventilated room. Dust and smelly particles irritate the delicate membranes of nose, throat and bronchi and in this way diminish resistance to colds. Colds seem as inevitable as Christmas—but they shouldn't be. How one feels on a certain day is important. Suppose a farmer returns home tired and hungry from his day's work. The same light breeze which did not bother him at all on going out to work now gives him a cold.

A farmer is working in a well-tempered barn and every time the door is opened he starts sneezing or feels pain in his right ear. Another farmer who is working with him cannot understand why that is so—he enjoys nothing better than a rush of fresh air from the open door or window even on days when the weather is chilly. Both of them are right! People are different.

Colds are frequently caught by exposure of a distant part of the body. A farmer cannot avoid working near a draughty door—incessantly he feels a draught on his arm. The next day, however, he does not suffer from an arm ailment but from a sore throat. Another farmer got wet feet while he was walking through a snowstorm—a cold was the result.

The weather has an influence on the frequency of colds—but the climate has less to do with colds than we usually believe. There are just as many colds in southern California as there are in cool New England or in windy Chicago. Getting accustomed to the weather may beat the inclination to colds; the weatherproof locomotive engineer in his draughty cab isn't as likely to catch cold as passengers in the stuffy cars behind.

When the first signs of a cold appear we may be able to check its progress by proper methods. Heat is essential for prevention and treatment of colds, whether applied externally in the form of a hot bath, followed by hot compresses around the neck or the chest, or an electric pad in bed, or whether internally produced by hot drinks such as hot tea or hot lemonade, mulled wine or hot tea with rum. Keeping the bowels open is most important; freeing the system from the infection by taking a laxative or an enema helps check a cold at its onset.

There are innumerable oils, drugs and drops which are employed in the nose to have its mucous membranes swelled off. A much recommended house remedy is the inhalation of camomile tea vapors through nose and mouth, or a teaspoonful of tincture of benzoin for each pint of water in a steam kettle. Others prefer inhalation of weak acids.

If the sickness becomes serious or if there is fever, do not fail to consult your doctor.

No matter what else you take

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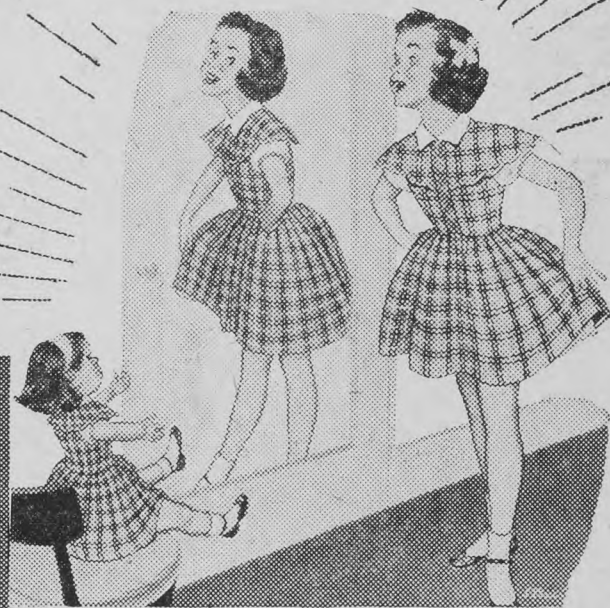
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(Tide does the most terrific job
On all clothes—plain and fancy!)
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GETS CLOTHES CLEANER
THAN ANY SOAP!



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NEW STEPPED-UP WASHING POWER!

EVERY GRAIN of new Heavyweight Tide does more work—gets clothes *cleaner*. Just try it in your washing machine. Wring out your clothes, rinse them... and, lady, you'll hang up a *cleaner* wash than you'll get with *any* soap—or any other washing product sold in all Canada!

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AND BRIGHTER! Just wait till you see how soap-dulled colors *glow* after a Tide wash. Your wash prints look so crisp and fresh... the fabric feels so soft... irons so *beautifully*. Get new Tide today—and hang the *cleanest* wash in town on *your* line.

BE careful before you choose a gift for Christmas to send to your friends abroad, for, strange as it seems, you just cannot wrap up anything you like and post it. The reason is that each country's post office has its own list of taboos, and your parcel will be confiscated if any article contained in it infringes the regulations.

For example, Christmas crackers may not be sent to Italy, stationery compendiums to Ceylon, nor musical instruments to the Friendly Islands. To Abyssinia you must not send toy pistols, and Egypt will not allow the importation of shaving brushes or hair or bristles used in their manufacture. Playing cards are not to be sent to

Post Early, but Be Careful

Different countries impose embargoes on a diversity of mailed imports

by CATHLEEN O'CONNOR

Algeria. If you feel like sending chalk for children's games to Egypt the container must bear the word "Poison" in Arabic and other languages!

Of course, in many cases, the rulings are wise. For instance, the sending of silkworms, live bees and leeches through the post might be dangerous and embarrassing. The refusal of Bulgaria, Argentina, Bolivia and Crete post offices to allow in gifts of old and

discarded clothing unless these articles are accompanied by proof that they have been properly disinfected is also understandable. But why Iran should take exception to the sending of used razor blades while allowing the posting of unused ones, is difficult to understand.

Some really ludicrous taboos are the sending of elm trees from the United States to Ireland, tear gas bombs to

Colombia, daggers and stilettos to the Dominican Republic. Saudi Arabia forbids the sending by post of alcoholic liquor, or books and pamphlets which are prejudicial to the Moslem faith.

Living plants are, naturally enough, high on the list of forbidden articles, due to the danger of diseases, but you would wonder why only the chrysanthemum must not be sent to Northern Ireland without permission. The United States and Saudi Arabia will not accept potatoes sent by post.

Most extraordinary ban of all is that imposed by Yemen. This very strict Moslem state refuses to accept any parcels whatever!



There Should Have Been Two Diplomas

Yes, this family deserves two diplomas. A diploma for the daughter whose ability and hard work carried her through school to the proud day of graduation. A diploma, too, for her parents... with "honors" to her mother whose example and training guided her daughter along sound lines, helped her to graduate and will continue to help her in the new life ahead.

On every hand we see the good influence of the Canadian woman.

Truly, she is the "heart of her home"... moulding the character of her children... teaching them to think soundly, act sanely and do a good job for themselves and their country.

She is not only contributing to the welfare of her family, but also to the strength of Canada.

The influence of the Canadian woman also extends to the food business where her good buying standards are a challenge to every manufacturer. That is why Weston's are proud that Weston's Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, Candies and other food products have been such consistent favorites with Canadian women for over 65 years.

"Always buy the best—buy Weston's"



GEORGE WESTON LIMITED...CANADA

The Countrywoman

HUMAN blood is truly a "miracle fluid." And that, by the way, is the title of an educational film on the subject, which may be obtained for showing to interested groups.

Little was known about the composition or functions of blood until such discoveries as its circulation by Harvey in 1628 and its four main groups by Landsteiner in 1901. World War II brought experience in its place as a life-saving factor and added vastly to medical knowledge.

Some two and one-half million pints of blood were contributed by Canadians from coast to coast, during the war years. The collection of blood from volunteer donors was undertaken by the Canadian Red Cross Society during those years, in order to supply the armed forces with adequate quantities of dried serum for the treatment of casualties. Dr. W. Stewart Stanbury, Director of National Blood Transfusion Service of the Red Cross Society, was for six years in charge of the largest blood transfusion service in the British Isles, which supplied three-quarters of the blood used by the Royal Navy at home and abroad, the greater part of the whole blood for D-Day landings and one-half of the whole blood used by British armies on the Continent, as well as meeting the needs of air raids and the total blood transfusion requirements of all military and civilian hospitals in the Yorkshire area. Dr. Stanbury speaking to a Winnipeg audience said:

"Blood is a peculiar commodity in that it can be obtained only from human sources. It cannot be manufactured in test tubes, nor is there any adequate substitute. It cannot be, or should not be, bought and sold as a commercial commodity for it represents the free gift of one man to another in order that human life may be saved." And again:

"In the dark ages, the shedding of blood—whether man's or beast's—was the symbol of sacrifice—the zenith of devotion to man's ideal. In a more enlightened civilization, to give blood is still the expression of an ideal, a peculiarly personal gift, infinitely of ourselves in order to save our fellow man."

People readily respond to emergency calls to help those who suffer as a result of war or disaster. But what about day-by-day civilian needs? Will the response be sufficient and given in time to accumulate adequate stockpiles? Every day, doctors are called upon to treat casualties; victims of motor and railway accidents; those who suffer from shock, burns or have received injury in mine field, forest or factory. Medical men know full well the vital role of blood and plasma in major surgery and hemorrhage; how necessary are trained technicians in its handling and proper facilities for administering.

RIGHT here in Canada in 1943, figures showed that over 21 per cent of all maternal deaths were due to hemorrhage. Fully three-quarters of these might have been saved, had prompt and adequate transfusion therapy been universally available.

A number of hospital associations and provincial departments of health approached the Canadian Red Cross with a request that a service, similar to that used during war years, be provided in peacetime to meet civilian needs. A joint committee representative of Red Cross, research, medicine and health was set up. A survey of Canadian hospital needs was undertaken and completed in 1945. This study covered 80 per cent of all general hospital beds. It showed alarming shortages of blood and

Blood, a free gift of one person to another in order to save a human life —the story behind its giving through the Red Cross

by AMY J. ROE

plasma; the cost of blood transfusions was so great that they were beyond the means of the average patient; that many hospitals had not and could not afford the facilities required for blood transfusions; that there were large areas in Canada completely devoid of such facilities.

A plan for a National Blood Transfusion Service was worked out, acceptable to all concerned. Its object was to supply every hospital in Canada, free of charge, with whole blood, dried plasma, distilled water for its preparation and sterile administration sets.

It was a four-way co-operative plan. The provincial departments of health would be asked to supply premises for central laboratories or a capital grant in lieu of same. Hospitals wishing to participate would agree to administer the transfusions, free of charge. The Canadian Red Cross would furnish the scientific equipment, medical and technical personnel and the transport, as well as being completely responsible for the operation of the service. Public-spirited Canadian men and women would give their blood freely and regularly as voluntary donors.

The first provincial unit of this national service was established in British Columbia in February, 1947. It has been in continuous service since. Alberta was next, in July of that year, extending the service in northern areas and a few months later in the southern

area. The Maritimes followed suit in 1948 and later Ontario and Quebec. Manitoba, which operates on a regional basis, taking in western Ontario to the Lakehead, came into operation in January, 1950. Plans for Saskatchewan are for depot premises in the new university hospital at Saskatoon and for a sub-depot in Regina general hospital. It is hoped to have both these centers in the province operating before the end of 1951.

The general plan of organization is to set up in each province a central blood depot with one or more sub-depots, depending upon geography and density of population. Specially trained medical, nursing and technical personnel are based in these depots and are responsible for the collection of blood for stationary and mobile unit clinics. The mobile units tour the towns, villages and country. Blood is collected in bottles and brought to central laboratories, where it is grouped, Rh-typed and tested for communicable diseases.

PERHAPS the story will come clearer if it is related to one province, Manitoba. The central depot of the National Blood Transfusion Service is located in a fine, new, modern building in the heart of Winnipeg. It serves a region—Manitoba and western Ontario, to the Lakehead, at the time of writing, supplying blood and plasma to some 69 hospitals and sanatoria. These institutions are under agreement to obtain and administer transfusions, free of charge. Approximately 700 bottles of blood are required each week to meet all the requests. The service is on a 24-hour basis, with a technician and driver ready at any hour to respond

to a call for blood and to rush it to the hospital.

The visitor is shown the laboratories, where blood is tested, grouped according to type. When a call comes, the technician cross-matches with the sample of the patient's blood to the finest possible point. The visitor views the processing, equipment and sterilizing rooms and the large walk-in refrigerator where the blood is "banked."

Whole blood can be kept for about 21 days under refrigeration. If it is not called upon, it is then processed into plasma, which may be kept almost indefinitely. It can then be stored for emergency stockpiles or be shipped to laboratories in Montreal to be further processed into blood products. Not a bottle of precious life-saving fluid is wasted.

According to its 1950 report, Manitoba had some 20,000 donors registered, 12,000 of whom came from Greater Winnipeg. Within two months of the opening of the service, the use of blood by hospitals doubled and has been rising slowly but steadily. Clinics were suspended during the Red River flood of that year but the requirements of hospitals were met by blood flown in from Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary and Hamilton depots. By the end of the year, the region was extended to include western Ontario, which brought in centers such as Fort William, Fort Francis, Dryden, Kenora and Keewatin. In the meantime the mobile clinics started operations. During June, July and August of 1951, mobile clinics visited 31 points, covering other cities, major towns and villages including the country areas around them. Over 6,000 bottles of blood were collected. The first airborne clinic in the province's history went to Churchill and later to The Pas and Flin Flon. Due possibly to the large number of clinics held at military and industrial centers the proportion of men and women contributing is approximately 60:40.

The base product of the service is blood. It is given free by volunteers, men and women, between the ages of 18 and 65. The average person has 240 ounces of blood. In a donation, he contributes 380 c.c. or approximately one-twentieth of his blood volume. That volume of fluid is replaced by his body in 48 hours. The process of giving a donation is simple and easy. He is advised to rest for ten minutes afterwards and partake of light refreshments—usually coffee and doughnuts. He may then proceed with his day's routine. Some donors have given 20 to 30 donations. Not more than two is accepted in a 12-month period, unless upon written instructions from a doctor that such is advisable. (Please turn to page 89)



Refrigerator holds bottled blood.



Donor finds making blood donation is a simple and easy process.



Australian women and girls are finding much of interest and importance to the good life on a farm through agricultural extension courses provided by two states

individual farmers," Miss Haskett explained.

For that reason, communities are encouraged to form local agricultural bureaus. The department sends field workers to bureau meetings. It is fairly recently that women have been admitted to associate membership in these organizations, and it is Miss Haskett's task to design programs of studies for them.

Meetings also take the form of debates on members' common problems, and of film showings, play readings and social gatherings. Local groups sponsor field days, with trials of machinery and other field competitions. They sponsor Junior Farmer Clubs and Youth Camps and Schools.

In short, as department workers put it, they "provide the farmer and his family with the means to a fuller life and community co-operation."

Each year a three-day state conference of educational sessions is held at Hawkesbury Agricultural College, to which bureaus send representatives.

A library to bureaus is provided on every phase of farming, from bee-keeping to home treatment of animal and plant diseases. Free to all farmers is the monthly *Agricultural Gazette*, an attractive, well-illustrated magazine for country people.

Annual leadership schools, for young men and women from 18 to 30

Homemaking Down Under

Students at a leadership school listen intently to a talk on the conduct of a public meeting.

by MARGARET ECKER FRANCIS

A FEW years ago when Australian farmers gathered for an agricultural conference, "Mum" was either left at home or brought along to look after the lunch.

While the menfolk discussed their problems and talked with representatives of the state department of agriculture, their wives sat in the shade, if there was any shade, fanned themselves and gossiped. It was a pleasant enough change from the loneliness of life on the farm, but many of them wished the department had provided stimulating talks for them too.

Agriculture experts brought their husbands the latest information on raising pigs and poultry, on growing vegetables and fruit, on irrigation and the control of pests. Could the women not be instructed in the important homemaking side of country life? Department representatives agreed. Today "Mum" still arrives with bulging picnic baskets of food, but she wastes no time gossiping under an eucalyptus tree.

Instead she watches intently while a brisk, cheerful woman from the state department of agriculture explains the speediest way of turning a sleeve, or discusses the canning of fruit and vegetables for a better year-round balance of the family diet. She can find out how, by careful conservation of water, she herself can have a garden of flowers around her like the ones she envies in coastal areas. Not all the courses are strictly homemaking.

"We also aim to extend the rural woman's interests beyond her kitchen," explained Nancy Haskett, senior extension officer of the New South Wales agriculture department, who is in charge of women's extension work.

"Many of our courses are designed to give women as well as their husbands a broader understanding of general farm problems. We encourage

young women to participate in our leadership courses, so that they may become leaders in their communities if they have the qualities.

A Canadian accustomed to rural community life where women have taken their places and have always had interests far beyond their kitchens, may at this point look blankly at the intense, brown-haired young woman. But it doesn't take a very long stay in Australia to grasp the situation.

The average Australian housewife, whether in country or city, concentrates her whole interest on home and family, and in most cases isn't encouraged by her husband to do otherwise.

"We feel country women would live fuller, less monotonous lives if they had a broader outlook," said Miss Haskett, who was a teacher of home economics before she joined the department. "A few years ago it was almost impossible for the daughter of a farmer, unless the farmer was wealthy, to go to a city for higher education or training in a technical school. Through our courses we are trying to make up to these women, now that they have their own homes, the education they were denied as girls."

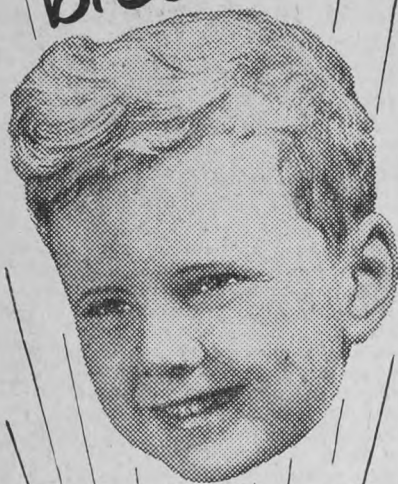
OF the Australian states, only New South Wales and South Australia have advanced so far in extension education. The setup in the latter is much like that of New South Wales, where the department of agriculture has 250 men and women in the field. They travel constantly, bringing farmers the results of research on fruit, plant and animal problems. At the same time they collect data on farmers' problems and take them back to the department, where the research staff goes to work on them.

"Since our state has an area of nearly 310,000 square miles, and our farms are spread over all that area, it isn't possible for us to contact

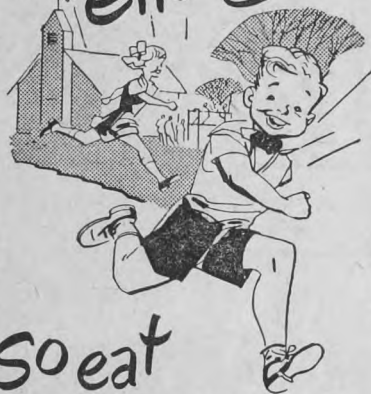


Nancy Haskett demonstrates to a group how best to turn a sleeve. Educational films play an important role at local bureau meetings.

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years of age, are sponsored by the department and held at various points in the state. The schools last from five to ten days and may be staged anywhere from a large homestead to a sheep-shearing shed and shearers' quarters or a youth camp. Cost is kept to a minimum for board and accommodation, usually between \$1.00 and \$1.50 a day. The department provides instructors and organizers for the schools, as well as reference books.

"It's fascinating as we work and talk and study together," one worker said, "perhaps right out in the bush country, to watch young minds gradually unfold. In the city it's hard to realize how hungry an intelligent young man or woman can be for knowledge, and for experience in self-expression."

"I remember how one community problem was solved that way. A new, young parson had been sent to the district and he wasn't very popular. He was really shy, but the young people thought he was a sissy."

"At one of these schools, during the play-reading session, he was given the part to read of a tough crook. The part brought him out of himself and he read it beautifully. The rest of the young people suddenly saw him as a normal human being, as one of themselves, and he had much more influence after that."

At the leadership schools, girls as well as boys are taught to take part in debates and to assume the chair at meetings.

"This gives them new confidence in themselves," Miss Haskett said. "The girls realize that their opinions can be of some value and that by taking an interest in community affairs they can be of real use."

PUBLIC speaking is not all the students learn. They are taught how to initiate such community efforts as field days, play productions, film evenings, debates and the arranging and carrying out of public meetings and banquets.

The development of personality is taught, along with the art of being a good host or hostess, or a good guest. Boys and girls are taught a good carriage, how to walk, stand and sit. For girls there are further courses in grooming, in dressmaking and in planning and buying a wardrobe.

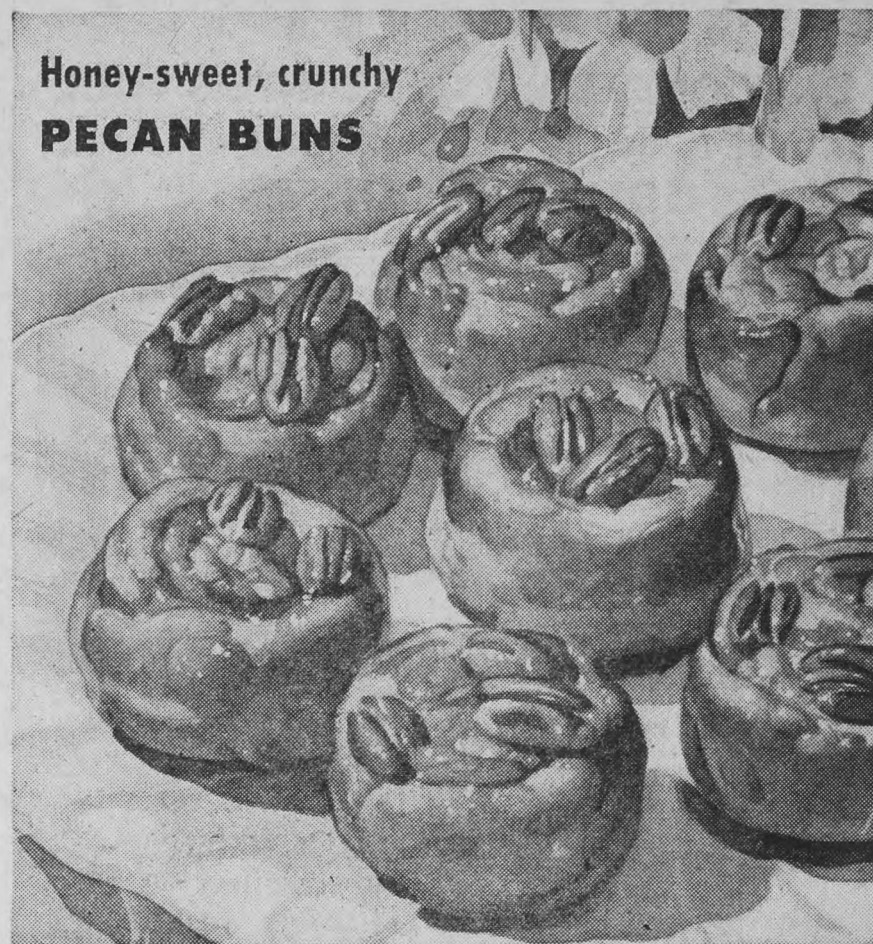
Those attending the schools are of course expected to take the information back to their communities and conduct courses for those who could not attend.

Since many young married couples attend the schools together, the course in homemaking is one of the most popular. The course takes them from the choosing of a home site and materials to the economic installation of labor-saving devices and the wise choice of furniture and color schemes. The home is one of the focal points for extension work for all ages.

"Women in Australia have been badly neglected by their husbands as far as housing goes," explained Miss Haskett. "Until now, few saw the need of amenities. They didn't regard the house as their problem, but rather it concerned their wives. We are trying to wake the men up and show them that with the whole family working together, conditions can be improved without spending too much money."

"As in the country everywhere, most farmers expect their wives to give

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* * *

HONEY PECAN BUNS

New Time-Saving Recipe
Makes 24 Buns

Measure into bowl
1/2 cup lukewarm water
1 teaspoon granulated sugar
and stir until sugar is dissolved.
Sprinkle with contents of
1 envelope Fleischmann's
Fast Rising Dry Yeast
Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well.
In the meantime, scald
1/2 cup milk
Remove from heat and stir in
1/4 cup granulated sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons shortening
Cool to lukewarm and add to yeast
mixture. Stir in
1 egg, well beaten
Stir in
1 cup once-sifted bread flour
and beat until smooth; work in
2 1/2 cups once-sifted bread flour
Turn out on lightly-floured board and

knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic.

Place in greased bowl, brush top with melted butter or shortening.

Cover and set dough in warm place, free from draught and let rise until doubled in bulk. While dough is rising, grease 24 large muffin pans.

Combine

1/3 cup brown sugar (lightly
pressed down)

2/3 cup liquid honey

3 tablespoons butter or
margarine, melted

Divide this mixture evenly into prepared muffin pans and drop 3 pecan halves into each pan. Punch down dough and divide into 2 equal portions; form into smooth balls. Roll each piece into an oblong 1/4-inch thick and 12 inches long; loosen dough. Brush with melted butter or margarine.

Sprinkle with a mixture of

1/3 cup brown sugar (lightly
pressed down)

1/3 cup chopped pecans

Beginning at a 12-inch edge, roll up each piece loosely, like a jelly roll. Cut into 1-inch slices. Place a cut-side up, in prepared muffin pans. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 20 minutes. Turn out of pans immediately and serve hot, or reheated.



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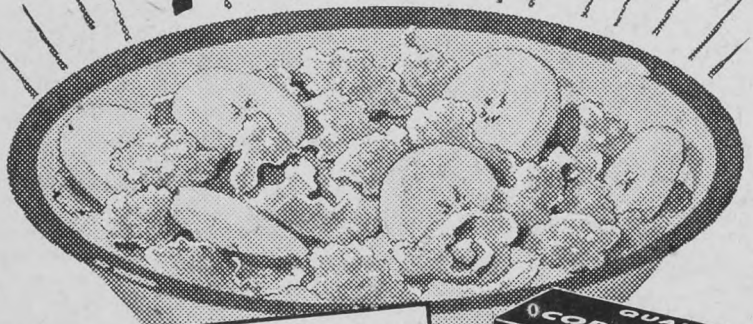
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them a hand outside when necessary. We are trying to make them see that if they can provide their homes with water and electricity, their wives would have even more time and energy to give them a hand."

One of the best pieces of program for this ideal is supplied by a film produced by the National Film Board of Canada, "Kitchen Come True." It shows how a whole family worked together to plan and rebuild the kitchen of a farm house for greater convenience and comfort.

"The film has been influential with Australian farm families," Miss Haskett said. "It has influenced many families to follow its example."

The department of agriculture has concentrated a great amount of thought and experimentation on the problem of the farm home. They have now evolved an adobe-type house, much as is built in parts of Mexico. It can be made from the earth of the farm itself. When farmers send samples of earth to the department, experts analyze it and instruct them what chemicals need to be added so that mud bricks can be made which are in turn packed into frames.

Through their bureaus, complete instructions are supplied on the building of the adobe houses, which, when completed, are pleasant, modern, stucco bungalows. Experiments have shown they are warm in winter and cool in summer and that they repel termites which make life in a wooden house an eternal battle against insects. The farmer only has to buy roofing, timbers and foundation materials.

When construction is completed, the department supplies detailed instructions about colors and materials which give the most protection against the blistering heat of interior Australia.

Lack of balance in the diet of rural Australia has been a headache for medical authorities and dietitians, but through extension courses the agriculture department is re-educating women to correct this.

Water conservation is taught, so that the housewife can have enough irrigation to grow the greens which the family diet usually lacks. The value of refrigeration is emphasized and courses are given in the preserving of fruit and vegetables.

"In other words," Miss Haskett elaborated, "we are bringing the advantages of home economics courses to women who have been unable to go to the city for the instruction."

"Farmers used to think their wives were lazy and no good if they used canned food, but we are gradually changing that. Through our dietitians we are teaching them the value of a balanced diet, and showing that canned food, done either commercially or at home, is most valuable. Rural people in Australia used to be suspicious of the food value of things in tins. We are proving that these can help balance the diet by providing fruit and vegetables and meat when they are out of season."

The Fires

*How can I turn from any fire
Or any man's hearthstone?
I know the wonder and desire
That went to build my own.*

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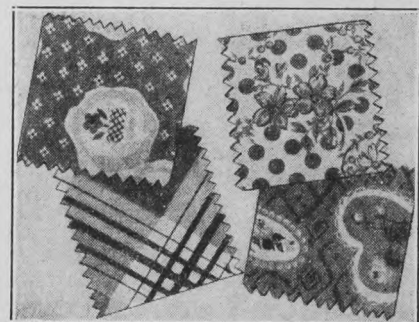
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All Made with Cornmeal

A simple way to add variety and texture to cold-weather meals

by LILLIAN VIGRASS

CORNMEAL is not just for johnnycake or to serve as a breakfast cereal. It adds new texture and a delicious flavor to all foods from a main dish to desserts.

The two main dishes, included here, are meals by themselves. Serve them with a tossed salad or two vegetables for supper. The spoon bread and polenta are delicious accompaniments to any meat dish. Try the spoon bread with lamb chops, the polenta with a beef stew. The johnnycake will serve as a hot quick bread or as a dessert when served the old-fashioned way with plenty of butter and syrup or tart jelly.

Corn Bread with Sausages

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 1 lb. link sausages | 2 T. butter |
| 1 c. cornmeal | 2 eggs |
| 1 c. water | 2 c. milk |

Cook sausages for 10 minutes or until half done. In the meantime boil water, milk and butter; add cornmeal. Cook until thick. Beat eggs; add to mixture. Pour off all fat from sausage. Arrange sausages in baking pan (8 by 8 inches) and add 2 T. drippings to cover bottom of pan. Pour cornmeal mixture over sausages. Bake at 375° F. for 20 minutes. Turn upside down on a platter. Serve with gravy made from remaining drippings.

Cornmeal Tamale Pie

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1½ lbs. ground beef | 2 tsp. chili powder |
| ½ c. chopped onion | 1 c. tomato sauce |
| 1 clove garlic | 2 c. water |
| 2 c. cooked kidney beans | 2 c. cornmeal mush |

Sprinkle meat with flour; add onion. Cook over low heat until meat is browned. Add minced garlic, chili powder, tomatoes and water. Cook slowly until meat is tender. Add beans. Line bottom and sides of casserole with cornmeal mush about 1 inch thick. Fill with meat mixture. Let stand for several hours or from breakfast to the supper hour. Bake at 375° F. for 25 minutes.

Johnnycake

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 2 c. cornmeal | 2 c. sour milk |
| 1½ tsp. salt | 2 eggs, beaten |
| 1 tsp. baking soda | 2 T. melted shortening |
| 2 T. sugar | |

Sift dry ingredients together. Add milk, eggs and shortening. Mix well. Pour into greased pan 8 by 10 inches. Bake in a hot oven (400° F.) for 30 minutes. Serve with butter and syrup.

Spoon Bread

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1 c. water | 1 c. cornmeal |
| 2 c. milk | 2 eggs |
| 2 T. butter | |

Boil together water, milk and butter. Add cornmeal. Cook until thick. Add beaten eggs. Bake at 350° F. for 20 minutes. Serve from casserole at the table.

Custard Spoon Bread

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| ¾ c. cornmeal | 1 egg |
| ¼ c. flour | 1 c. milk |
| 1 tsp. baking powder | 2 T. butter |
| 2 T. sugar | ½ c. cold milk |

Mix dry ingredients. Add melted butter, beaten egg and 1 c. milk. Pour into greased casserole. Pour over top ½ c. cold milk. Sprinkle with grated cheese if desired. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes. Spoon out of casserole at table.

Polenta

Pack left-over cornmeal mush in bake pan. Cool until well set, turn out and slice in ½-inch slices. Place in a large buttered baking pan cut side up. Sprinkle with grated cheese. Bake at 375° F. until golden brown. Serve as meat accompaniment.

Cornmeal mush may also be sliced and fried in butter or bacon fat until a golden brown. Serve hot with butter and syrup or tart jelly.

Cornmeal Muffins

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 c. cornmeal | 4 tsp. baking powder |
| 1 c. sifted flour | 1 c. milk |
| ½ tsp. salt | 2 T. shortening |
| 2 T. sugar | 1 egg |

Sift dry ingredients together. Beat egg; add milk and melted shortening. Add dry ingredients, mixing only enough to dampen flour. Fill greased muffin pans ¾ full. Bake at 400° F. for 25 minutes. Makes 12.

For variation fill muffin pans ¼ full; put a teaspoon of jelly in each, cover with rest of batter and bake in hot oven.

Indian Pudding

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| 3 c. milk | ½ tsp. ginger |
| ¼ c. cornmeal | ¼ tsp. cinnamon |
| ½ tsp. salt | ½ c. molasses or brown sugar |
| ½ c. cold milk | |

Mix dry ingredients in top of double boiler; add 3 c. milk and molasses. Cook over boiling water 30 minutes. Pour into uncovered baking dish; bake in slow oven (300° F.) for ½ hour stirring several times. Pour ½ c. cold milk over pudding. Bake without stirring 2 to 2½ hours longer. Serve warm with hard sauce, ice cream or plain thick cream.



Cornmeal tamale pie will add variety and flavor to fall suppers.

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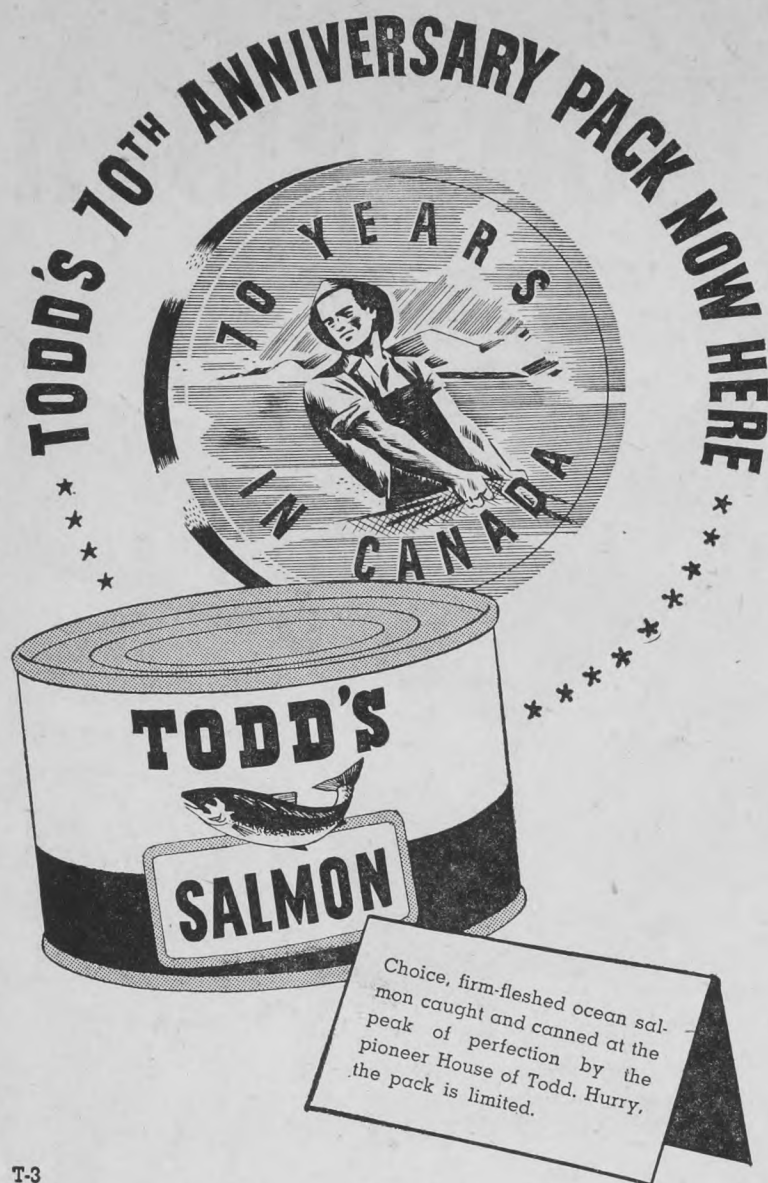
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M-518

Stuffing for Wild Fowl

Try these unusual and favorite recipes when making dressing for that game bird

by MYRTLE J. BROLEY

THEY say every gourmet has his own way of making a salad dressing—to my mind they are even more particular about the stuffing for a duck or goose, especially if it is a wild bird.

There are those who hold with the apple or onion put in the cavity of the fowl and thrown away before the succulent dish is brought to the table. These they claim absorb the excess fat or any taint from the bird and add a whiff of flavor. Indeed, there are some who stuff whole cloves and bits of cinnamon bark into the apple.

Some epicures prefer that the bird be well rubbed, inside and out with lemon, then salted and peppered but left empty. From there on the various methods run all the way to the extent of that southern filling for a turkey in which the turkey was stuffed with a large capon which had been filled with a fat squab which in turn contained a dove in whose little carcass reposed chopped nuts and celery mixed with a little cooked rice.

There are gourmards who feel that putting any other than a stuffing made with wild rice in a wild duck such as a canvasback, redhead or cunning little ruddy is a desecration. True, in most parts of the country this is rather expensive but then, aren't these treasures worthy of the best? Indeed one hunter sent a plane from Florida to Minnesota for this rice so his birds could be served properly to his friends. Some of the less prized ducks are helped so much by this stuffing, it is claimed, that sybarites have eaten them without realizing what unworthy food they were.

To make this stuffing for two wild ducks you will need two cups of cooked wild rice. This should be prepared by slowly dropping the rice into three quarts of salted, boiling water. Boil for 20 minutes, then drain.

Brown one-quarter cup of chopped onions in one-third cup of margarine or butter. Add the rice and a little salt and pepper. Mix well, then fill the birds. Sautéed mushrooms are very good in this but are not necessary.

There are nimrods who prefer an apple stuffing as they claim the apple has a real affinity to the duck. They fry some pieces of salt pork until they are crisp, add one-quarter cup of chopped onion and brown it. Next two cups of green apples, diced, are added and all cooked slowly until the apple is soft. They then work in about two cups of soft bread crumbs and salt and pepper to taste. This is equally good with wild goose or tame fowl. In a hurry, thick applesauce may be added instead of the diced apple.

Have you ever tried a quick cooking rolled oats stuffing for a Canada goose or a wild duck? We used this in a white fronted goose, brought down with a clever shot. The result was all that had been promised.

Take one cup of chopped onion and brown it in half a cup of bacon fat. Add three cups of uncooked, quick cooking oats and half a cup of soft bread crumbs, stir well. Add two teaspoons poultry seasoning, two tea-

spoons salt, one teaspoon pepper and a pinch of paprika. Now add slowly half a cup of water, stirring well as you do so. Continue stirring while the whole cooks for about seven minutes. Stuff your bird or birds with this and see if you don't think it wonderful.

There are a few epicures who do not like the flavor of the versatile onion and for them we suggest using a cup of chopped celery (leaves and all) instead and adding half a cup of washed raisins just before taking the stuffing from the stove.

Perhaps one of the best stuffings for wild ducks or geese—and indeed I like it very much for the tame ones also—is a potato stuffing. However, two excellent shots who hold that this is the only thing to use with canvasback, redhead or mallard differ in that the one insists on having two eggs, beaten well, added to the stuffing just before it is cooked. The other nimrod holds that this is unnecessary and adds nothing. Why not try them both for yourself and decide?

OF course you have the duck all ready, rubbed well inside and out with a little sour wine, vinegar or a slice of lemon. Put one-third of a cup of fat in the frying pan and add half a cup of minced onion. When this is golden brown add two cups of hot, mashed potatoes and one cup of well crumbled bread crumbs. Add one teaspoon salt, one teaspoon poultry seasoning, a piece of broken bay leaf and a pinch of pepper. Cook for a few minutes. Now is the time to add the eggs if you wish, cook a few minutes longer and then stuff your fowl. You need an oven of about 325° to cook these birds but if they aren't as brown as you wish at the end of the cooking time raise the heat a little. I like both ducks and geese cooked at least 25 minutes to the pound.

Some of the less prized wild ducks have a much better flavor if they are soaked for three or four hours in a pan of cold water to which a tablespoon of baking soda has been added. When taken out wipe well with a dry cloth, then rub thoroughly with salt before stuffing. Strips of bacon should be laid over the breast if the bird seems a trifle too lean or dry.

For wild fowl applesauce is a nice accompaniment or pickled, spiced crabapples. Pincherry jelly when one can get it really brings out the flavor as does wild grape jelly. If you can get them in the summer the roots of the so-called Jerusalem Artichoke, pickled and spiced made a wonderful addition. These grow wild in many places and are yours for the digging.

If Lucullus ever sat down to anything better than a deliciously browned goose or duck, delightfully stuffed and served with rich gravy, I cannot imagine what it was.

When you clean house, roll the large rugs diagonally so that most of the weight is in the centre. The rugs will not buckle or tend to break threads and they will be easier to carry.—L. P. Bell.

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Hair Beauty

Color and texture of hair not important... it is the care that counts

by LORETTA MILLER

ASK any girl or woman what she considers most important to step up her appearance and nine times out of ten she will say it is her hair. If there is a doubt in any mind, consider for a moment how disturbing it is to one's appearance when her hair is in need of shampooing, when there are stray locks of hair out of place, or when the hair is dull and lifeless. Then consider how smartly turned out one appears in the simplest of frocks when the hair is "just right."

There are specifically three distinct types of hair: fine, medium and coarse. Of these three the fine presents the greatest number of real problems. While it is true that coarse hair may be wiry and difficult to handle, once it is put into place, and especially when it is trained, it remains put. Medium hair, of course, is easiest of all to handle and requires little, if any, extra care other than the usual daily brushing and combing.

The hair which feels loveliest of all to the touch is the most difficult of all to care for. It requires constant pampering and even then is likely to get disheveled looking unless extremely well trained. This type of hair is best when worn either quite short and curled into ringlets, or rather long and anchored down with hairpins or combs. If short hair is preferred, it should be cut only long enough to make into ringlets that bounce back into place, or just long enough to be able to turn the ends under across the back of the head and forward at the sides. A good permanent in baby fine hair is the solution to most problems presented by this type of hair. It is well to know that a permanent which will be perfect in two weeks or so may appear tight and kinky at first.

Hair of medium texture requires little extra pampering beyond the usual daily brushing and combing and regular shampooing. A good permanent in this type of hair helps keep it well groomed and easily managed.

Hair of coarse texture, though wiry and hard to handle, can be easily trained to maintain a well-groomed appearance from morning until night. This type of hair may be worn long or short, straight or permanented. But most important of all it must be properly trained.

Hair is not difficult to cut providing one can have both hands free to perform the job. Therefore it is important to have mirrors properly arranged to show the side or back of the hair you are working on. The hair can be combed down and straggly ends cut off, or, little strands of hair may be twisted rope-fashion, then the protruding ends cut off. This latter method is excellent for getting rid of dry or split hair ends as well as shaping the hair. Quite naturally the haircut should have everything to do with the haircut, and both will depend upon whether or not a permanent wave is to be worn. When a complete hair job is to be done: haircut, shampoo and permanent, it is best to leave the hair a little longer than you really want it.

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Then after the permanent, the hair should be combed into place and the wave set. When the pins are removed and the hair combed into place, then the too long hairs should be cut off. Trim off only a trifling bit of hair at a time, keeping in mind that more can be taken off if it is still too long, but

that hair once cut off cannot be put back.

Unless you are one of those rare persons with dancing highlights in your hair, it is well to consider a special rinse. Such a rinse will not change the color of the hair at all, but it will give it lustre.

The very light shades of hair will be brighter after a lemon rinse. Squeeze and strain the juice of two medium size lemons into a tumbler of warm water. After thoroughly shampooing the hair and rinsing out all soap, pour the lemon rinse over the hair. Catch it in a basin and pour it over the hair again. Repeat until the lemon rinse has been poured over the entire head three or four times.

A camomile rinse may be used in place of the lemon, especially if a very, very slightly lighter sheen is desired. Camomile tea may be had in any drugstore. Steep three or four tablespoonfuls of this tea in one quart of water which has been brought to a boil, then strain through a double layer of gauze. Use this rinse just as you would the lemon rinse.

Brown hair is seldom a definite shade. All too often the shade darker than blonde, or that a few shades lighter than brunette is called brown. But if one were to look at it closely this shade of hair would be found to be more black than actual brown. Brown hair is truly one of the most desired of all shades, and is one of the easiest to attain, providing the hair is on the darker side of the color chart rather than the lighter shade. Hair that is not brown, but borders on the brunette, can be given a brown highlight by the

occasional use of a camomile rinse. This is not a dye, so must be repeated.

Blonde hair is given a reddish cast when a camomile rinse is used. However, it is generally better to use this type of hair brightening agent, rather than the so-called bleaching shampoos so highly advertised, unless one wants her hair many shades lighter.

Black hair will appear blacker and have more highlights if a bluing rinse is used after the shampoo. Special bluing for use on hair may be obtained in drugstores, and complete directions accompany each package. This same rinse is used with beautiful benefits on grey and white hair. On these shades the bluing removes the yellowish cast and gives it a true silvery tone. On black hair the bluing rinse removes all reddish highlights and gives the hair a blue-black loveliness. For this reason a bluing should be used on black hair only if the hair is as black as a raven's wing.

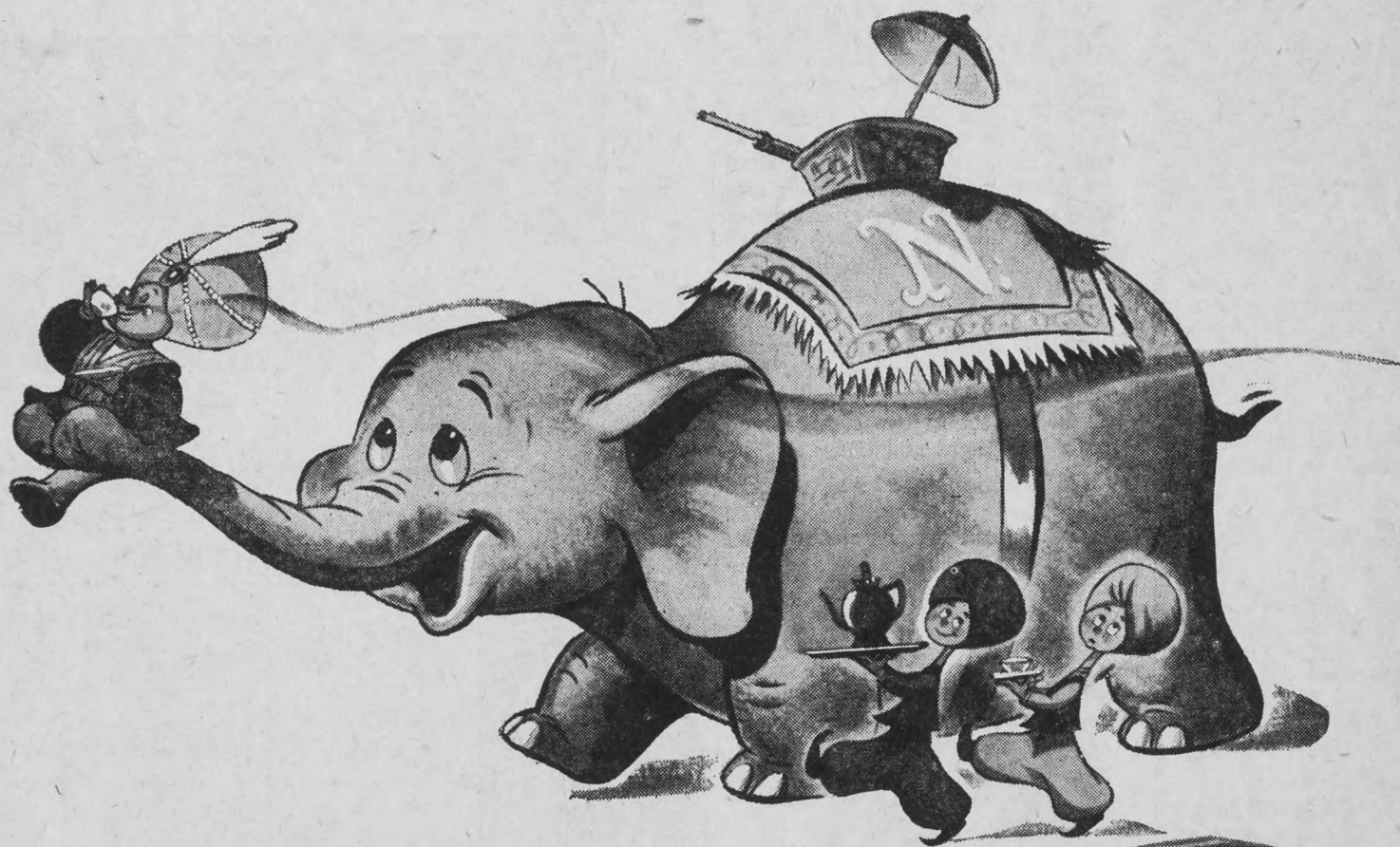
Treat silver or grey hair the way you would treat a piece of rare silk. Use only a mild shampoo on the hair, rinse out all trace of soap, then use a light bluing rinse to remove any yellow tinge. Bluing may, and in all probability will have to, be used on grey or silver hair if it is inclined to be streaked with yellow.

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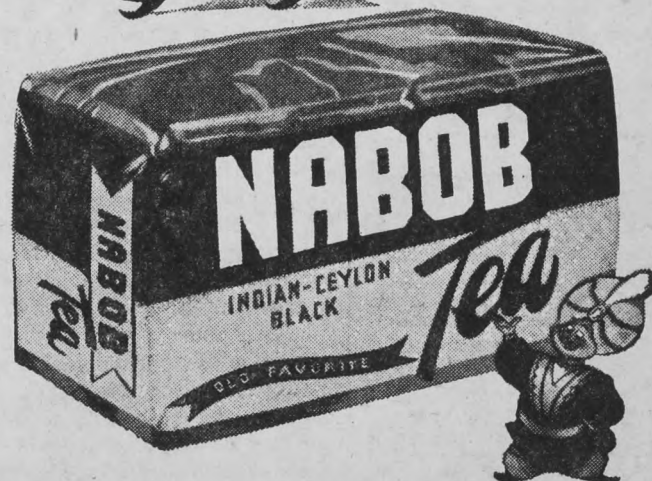


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Savings in Soap

Ways of reducing your laundry expenses

by MARGARET M. SPEECHLY

COMPARING price tickets as you shop for soap is apt to be frustrating because there is so little difference between brands. Even buying in quantity hardly seems worth while, as giant packages offer very little saving.

The only way to be sure of this is to weigh the contents and figure the price of each ounce or pound. In households where there is a tendency to use products liberally when plenty is available, it may pay to stick to small containers.

With so few guides to thrifty shopping, it becomes more important than ever for you to know which product will do the most work for you. Actually, each package is an investment in cleaning power.

Your choice should be governed by the job to be done. The finest soap flakes would be useless for dislodging grime from overalls; likewise, it would be poor economy to invest in cheap washing powders for cleansing blankets or woollens.

Before you go shopping, determine whether your job requires a light-duty or a heavy-duty product; whether the soil can best be removed by soap or a synthetic detergent (called syndet for short).

Knowledge of this kind means real savings, whereas failure to make a wise selection may result in actual loss of money, time and materials.

After bringing home your supplies, be sure they are used economically. To rely on soap for softening water is sheer waste because the minerals actually destroy soap. Even fairly soft water will waste as much as five pounds of soap for every 1,000 gallons used.

You will save actual cash and do a better washing job if you remove hardness with washing soda or tri-sodium phosphate (called t-s-p) before adding a particle of soap. These softeners are much cheaper than soap. Still more efficient softeners are being developed but are scarce and expensive.

Many people deal with the hard water problem by using products that are a combination of softener and soap. These are "built" soaps, the soap being built up or reinforced by alkalies that not only break the hardness but aid in removing soil.

Such products are handy, but in using them you are leaving the manufacturer to decide how much softener your water needs. As the composition of water varies greatly from farm to farm, built soaps may or may not be an economical investment.

Some may contain more alkali than you need. The surplus will remain in the wash water to injure woollens or fade colors. In any case, why pay soap prices for products that are only partly soap? It will be cheaper and more efficient to buy your own softener and to use a "pure" soap for getting out the dirt.

Your handling of any laundry product will determine whether you get full value for the money spent. Dumping it into the machine or the dishpan results in far more being used than is needed to do a good cleaning job.

Suds that are very rich do not clean

efficiently because the force of the water is reduced. Avoid waste of soap (and therefore of money) by using a measure of some kind. Pour the product into the cup while holding it over the machine so that not a flake can fall on the floor.

Add a little at a time until you get a lasting suds about two inches deep. Let the washer run until the flakes or chips are dissolved. If you use powdered soap, mix it first with cold water to avoid forming lumps.

Lumps of powdered soap or chunks from a bar are a dead loss in the washer because they have no cleaning power until they are converted into suds. Worse still, pieces of soap may cling to fabrics right through the washing process and finally develop into yellow spots when ironed.

Be just as careful when using a syndet, and remember that while some brands produce suds, others clean effectively without foaming. In doing the dishes, measure carefully until you find out how much is necessary to do a good job. After that, use the measure without fail.

The habit of dumping not only empties the container far too soon, but it means that you have to apply hand lotion to replace the oil removed from skin and nails. It may even give rise to irritation that will run up doctor's bills.

THE amount you spend for soap or syndets will be smaller if you rinse or scrape dishes before starting to wash them. Less of the product will be needed if you wipe greasy dishes with soft paper, and rinse with cool water anything that has held milk, egg, or other protein food.

If your family is smaller than it used to be, you may be washing up in a dishpan that is too large. A smaller volume of water requires less syndet or flakes.

Try smaller loads in the machine if you have fewer clothes to wash. In some homes, bits of washing are done frequently during the week. You can reduce your soap bills by grouping these together so that full use can be made of the suds before they are thrown out.

Washday products are regarded by merchants as fast-moving lines because they are used weekly. Is your turnover of these items too rapid? Are there any packages on your shelves that are seldom used?

This brings up the matter of coupons. There is nothing illegal about coupons. They are a legitimate form of advertising that appeals to the universal fondness of "getting something for nothing."

Actually, nothing is free. The cost of coupons and all the other merchandising schemes is simply added to the huge sums set aside for advertising, radio and other types of promotion, for which the consumer eventually pays.

From the standpoint of the public, a reduction in the price of soap would be much more to the point. People would then be free to choose the products they know do a thorough cleaning job, regardless of whether they are coupon-bearing.

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A New Fall Dress



3331

No. 3331—A casual jumper and blouse in women's sizes. Blouse has tucked front, winged collar and long sleeves with turn-back cuffs or short cuffed sleeves. The jumper features a new-shape neckline, a center front pleat and large pockets. Sizes 16, 18 and 20 years; 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46-inch bust. Size 40 blouse requires 3 yards 35-inch fabric; jumper $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards of 39-inch or $2\frac{5}{8}$ yards 54-inch fabric. Price 25 cents.

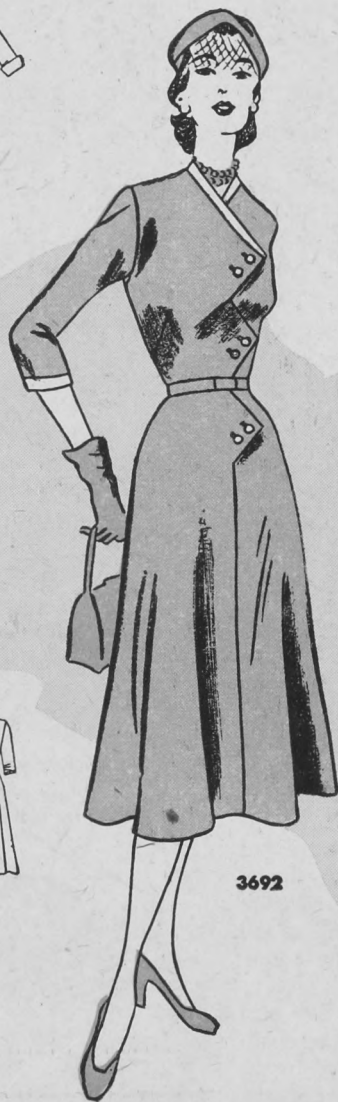
No. 3489—There are three ways to wear this junior dress—as a one-piece dress, a jumper or a two-piece suit. The skirt has a peg-top look; the bolero, cuffed dolman sleeves and a roll collar. Jumper or dress has an inverted heart-shaped neckline and buttons at the back from neck to below the waist. Dickey pattern included. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 dress and bolero requires 4 yards 39-inch or 3 yards 54-inch fabric; dickey $\frac{3}{4}$ yard 35-inch. Price 35 cents.



3687

No. 3687—A full-skirted dress for the junior miss with perky collar and cuffs and a buttoned bodice. Second version has long cuffed sleeves and a square neckline trimmed with a shaped contrasting band. Make it in a crisp material with sparkling buttons for that young look. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 requires $5\frac{1}{4}$ yards 39-inch fabric. Width of lower edge of dress 160 inches. Price 35 cents.

No. 3692—A zig-zag button closing at center front adds interest to this simple one-piece dress. The four-gore skirt has a graceful flare. Trim with white linen or matching satin—with a large bow at the first button. Sleeves may be short and cuffed. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 40 and 42-inch bust. Size 18 requires $3\frac{3}{8}$ yards 39-inch fabric; $\frac{3}{8}$ yard trim. The short-sleeved version $3\frac{3}{8}$ yards 39-inch fabric and $\frac{7}{8}$ yard for trim, bow and belt. Price 35 cents.



3692

No. 3514—For dress-up occasions choose this softly styled dress with flattering shirred bodice and V-neckline. The skirt features flat pockets at the hip and a trumpet flare at the back. Trim and bows are detachable and there's a choice of sleeve lengths. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years; 40, 42 and 44-inch bust. Size 20 style 1 requires $4\frac{1}{8}$ yards 39-inch fabric; $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards for style 2. Price 35 cents.



3514

State size and number of pattern wanted.
Write name and address clearly.
Note price.

Patterns may be obtained from your local dealer or order direct to Country Guide Pattern Service, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Simplicity
PATTERNS

Eyes in the Corner

Continued from page 12

house. He was a small dog, who continually thrilled his fit white self with all the sensations he could register, racing the gamut of adventure full length. He had found more and more to do in the decaying bungalow as time passed; even in his naps, he kept one sharp ear cocked for trouble, and the hollow walls were full of it.

The Quartermaster was a slow man, very good in his work among the men and supplies, but with little imagination or interest in the creatures of the wild. He demanded obedience from the Makin's and got same. In fact, that small party obeyed to the letter—to the point of having no responsibility for what might result. Though Daggett was first with him, Makin's had developed a fine fondness for Blount, and was forever trying to share the latter's bunk. Right now, he was looking for his second in command. The two men answered his importunate scratching, letting themselves out very carefully so the Makin's couldn't charge past.

"I wonder what he'd do in there—dive into the cobra's jar?" Blount idly inquired.

"I wonder what she'd do?" said Beaumont. "Cobras don't mind humans a whole lot; I'm convinced of that. The natives have protected them so long. But this one certainly didn't like the noise Makin's made outside."

THE Britishers grew accustomed to the activities in the walls of the bungalow and above the ceiling cloths. Numerous times on entering the "green room" they had seen the she-cobra again, standing upright like a slim, dark wand with clubbed head and beady gleaming eyes, in or near the big corner jar. They presumed she had a nest there, but did not trouble to investigate.

There had been other indications, too, feelings and sounds not altogether explainable. The Makin's had done a lot of scurrying about in and under the house, and time and again they had heard his annoyed and clamorous barking. When they answered the insistent summons, they had found nothing, or found the terrier growling with hair on end staring into some cranny among the shadows beyond their range of vision. But they drew their conclusions. They tried to keep the dog away from the house as much as possible, but Makin's was about as easy to curtail as so much quicksilver. So they took on by degrees the fatalistic attitude of the natives regarding such matters.

The rainy weeks were made of slow and dragging days. The weather was breathlessly hot between the showers, and the prolonged gloom of the rains ground more deeply upon the nerve-force of the white men than upon the strangers within their gates. Daggett, when he was about, worried constantly and one-pointedly about his mired supply truck; Beaumont worried about his plane which had been grounded with some difficulty in the spacious compound before the bungalow. He inspected it a dozen times each day, wiping all its metal parts, coating the motors with oil to protect them against the water. Blount did the same with his guns.

Blount awoke on the tenth morning with a feeling of weight on his right

leg. There was an ache back of his eyelids also—for the first time in many days—from the glow of the sun in the east window of his room. Real daylight again; rains shoved back for the forenoon at least. Blount realized this in a slow, fragmentary way. He drew his leg out from under the weight and turned over. He was never rightly awake until he set foot on the floor.

"Makin's is pretty quiet this morning," he thought drowsily, drawing his knees up luxuriously. . . . Probably Beaumont, who had been restless, would want to overhaul the plane and take a tramp into the dripping jungle. . . . He was coming, in the hall now. Blount heard his own door creak, but he kept his eyes shut a delicious moment longer. Then he looked out, but no one was in the aperture. Had he been dreaming that Beaumont had come to call him? Then he heard more steps in the hall. No doubt about it now—Beaumont in the doorway, his camera in his hand. Photography was a burning hobby of Beaumont's since he had come out East.

"Hello," said Blount, yawning.

The other didn't speak, but kept glancing at the foot of the bed. Blount began to extend himself.

"Easy—easy, Jock," Beaumont said softly, as if to a frightened colt. "Easy does it, don't stretch!"

Now Blount raised his head above the bedclothes and looked out.

"Ik, ik," came from his throat.

The cobra at the foot of the bunk raised her head also, the hood ever so slightly flaring. Blount was less than six feet long; the snake slightly less than that, and coiled on the canvas covering within striking distance of his face. For two or three dragging seconds the two stared; then the man's lips moved, while his hands lifted slowly to his chin under the covers. His fingers closed upon the edges of the canvas and blanket.

"Good-night, all," he said thickly, and disappeared.

Beaumont slowly turned at the sound of steps in the hall. The Burmese boy had come to announce breakfast.

"Bring the shot-gun, Migi," Beaumont ordered quietly.

"Also, coffee and cigarettes," from under the bedclothes.

Beaumont added gently: "It's up to you, Jock. Shall I take a chance and shoot some of this? The light's tempting—" His camera was the compact miniature motion-picture type.

"Help yourself," said Blount.

"She doesn't look aggressive," Beaumont went on. "She's housebroke, not man-shy—just warming herself."

"Heh-heh—am I supposed to get into the picture?"

"Not yet. I'm not making a move until Migi has her covered. It's my judgment she'll stand for a picture without getting sore."

"Go ahead and influence yourself."

"I'll wind her in alone first. After that, you come on; that is, you look out—as you did before."

"I'm not as peckish as I was," said Blount.

THEY had fallen quite naturally into that vein of deviling banter that came over them in the touch-and-go minutes of combat duty. Migi appeared again, carrying the shot-gun. His face looked grey and patched in the morning light. With fumbling fingers he opened the piece at the breech, closed it with a flick,

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and tiptoed into the room. Not until then did Beaumont give his attention to the camera. With soft, accurate movements he adjusted the light, focussed the lens and began to wind film.

The cobra had turned to the camera. She raised as before, the hood dilated. The single black eye that Beaumont watched, slowly isolated itself in its own brightness, gleaming like a bit of polished tourmaline. All else became shadowy. That eye hung still and remote; its stillness not stationary, but the poised balanced stillness of a star.

"Easy now, old man. Migi's got her covered. We'll hold her attention. Take it gently. Pull down the covers just enough to look out—as you did before—early morning scene, dark bungalow—central Burma. This will tickle a lot of the folks back home—"

"I hope it chokes 'em," muttered Blount.

The tips of his fingers lowered the covering from his face. His head lifted softly, his hair curiously ruffled.

"That's the technique," said Beaumont as he wound. "No sudden, importunate movements, dear old top. Look her in the throat, not in the eye. Let your hair stand up if it wants to—"

"It'll fly off if you don't keep her head turned your way!"

ALL simple enough so far—just a little daybreak episode caught for the edification of the boys and the folks back home—but Quartermaster Daggett and Makin's stepped into the hall just here. Beaumont quickly shut the door into the hall, but not quite in time. All dewey from the wet ferns, with gleaming morning face, tidings of "breaker" and bright weather—the Makin's darted past his foot to find Blount, his friend of friends. Makin's saw Blount, skidded a little on the bare boards as he put on the brakes, then leaped from the center of the floor to land for embrace on Blount's chest all the more joyous to note the man already in the game—humped and hiding under the covers. It was in mid-air that Makin's first saw the cobra bending toward him with a cherishing look. Joy went out of him, his leap finished in a backdive and yelp, as he landed wrongside up.

The ten-gauge shotgun in the house-boy's hands roared like a cannon indoors, but the hooded head had left the line of his fire that instant—to

lance at the terrier. She had fallen short, but like a loop of dirty water she spilled off the bed to the floor, having taken the warpath after the dog with not a single secondary thought.

Migi was fumbling with reloads. Beaumont glanced at him coldly—that frosty look that went with danger, but he didn't stop winding film. Meantime, Makin's had begun a series of squirrel-cage revolutions over and under Blount's bunk. Always as he came up top he would give a grieved bark toward the head of the bed, but couldn't stop for answer before the cobra would appear. It was a great temptation with his man-friend under cover, waiting to be hunted out, but the fool fiend behind never paused. Not a chance to halt and burrow.

For a minute or two, Makin's evidently entertained the idea that he might outdistance the enemy, gain time in one round to dig the man out, but the swollen head always reared behind too soon. Migi moaned that the empty shells in his piece were jammed and rusted in. Quartermaster Daggett was at the door and Beaumont's quiet tones were directed his way:

"Yes, Daggett. Just let me get a couple seconds more of this, then call your dog off to the hall and bring a good gun."

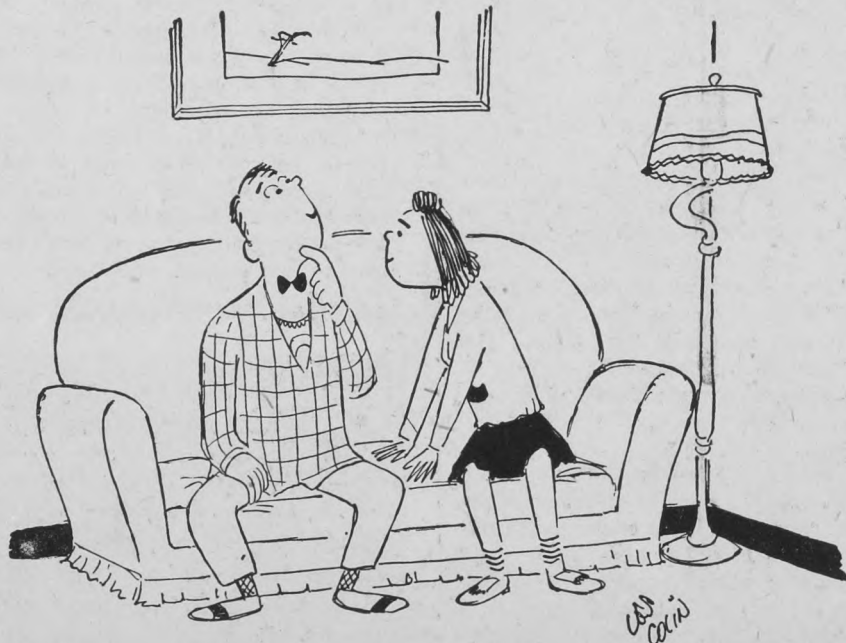
Makin's, meanwhile, weary of his system, started a trick-dash toward the hallway door. All the same to the cobra. She had all day to wreak vengeance. Then the terrier doubled back, and with a scream of delight leapt toward the narrow rift in the bedclothes just as Blount's head popped out. It was a matter of one small dog's life, no less. The man let him in. At the same time, Daggett boomed from the hall:

"Come on, kid! Here, Makin's!"

"Not now, Daggett!" Beaumont called. "Bring the gun!"

But a struggle was on under the bedclothes, the terrier having been taught to obey. "Hold him, Blount!" Beaumont yelled. "Roll over on him if you have to, but keep the covers tight."

The cobra's half-length was reared from the floor, the head moving along the edge of the bed like the hand and arm of a black woman, smoothing the covers. Still higher she raised, then slid to her old place on top of the canvas bedcover. Beaumont had closed



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his camera, his glance moving from the upheaval in the center of the bunk to the hooded head, icily watching for an exposed eye or limb, or bit of fur. Now Beaumont laid the camera down, making a definite and distracting sound. He picked up the camera tripod which lay on the floor, unused as yet. With the three steel-shod points thrust out before him like a spear, he lunged at the snake.

The cobra turned to meet him; the head vanished in a strike—too quick for eye to follow, but like the blow of a hammer, Beaumont felt the mailed head against the wood of the tripod legs. At the same time, the metal points of two of the legs caught her midthickness—at the instant of recoil. She was pinned now, against the underpad of the bunk, the tail whipping with electric speed and power. It struck Beaumont's knee, bruising like metal, yet with the lightness and lithe-ness of a thong.



"Sis finally got herself another boyfriend. It feels good to be in the chips again!"

The cobra's length from the point where she was impaled was luckily too short for the fangs to reach Beaumont's flesh, but it was like holding down a wild boar to keep the tripod points tight to the pad.

"Let Makin's go—get clear yourself!" he shouted to Blount.

The dog popped out, Blount after him. A laugh came from Beaumont. With all his strength he braced to keep the cobra down—his eyes starting from the strain—just to hold her.

"I can't keep her—she's too much for me," he gasped. Light was going out of him.

Next instant the cobra had actually freed herself. Then a crash in Blount's hand. He had connected with his automatic, and fired at close range. But as before the hooded head vanished at the shot, to reappear again unscathed.

A queer laugh from Blount. He was looking after the vanished cobra. She had made no attempt to attack either man, simply disappeared into the passageway, with a speed almost too fast for eye to follow.

Beaumont dropped down on the foot of the bunk, still laughing a bit weakly. Blount was over him, feeling his arms, opening his collar at the throat.

"No, she didn't touch me, Jock," Beaumont smiled. "She struck the tripod once, then I pinned her, as she pulled back. It was the force of her that got me so. You'd never believe it, man—she's tough as seasoned ash!"

Blount continued his examinations, wishing to make sure for himself.

"No, she didn't touch me with her head—that's a welt from her tail. It

was the strength of her, I tell you, that did me in."

"You know," said Blount queerly, "I don't think she'd have tried to attack if we'd left her alone. I learned something in that moment we had—looking each other in the eye. She could have stuck me half a dozen times, but she never moved. I'm glad she got away."

THE houseboy had withdrawn to the hall door, and now Quartermaster Daggett's face showed behind him. He carried Makin's in his arms, and he was trying to say something in his rigid, regular-army way. So was Makin's. "Wurrrf, wurrrf!" from that small party. Evidently it had been a highly agreeable morning for him.

Beaumont chuckled. Blount straightened up, drew a blanket around him with one hand, and reached for the stub of last night's cigarette.

"If you bounders will kindly disperse and remove yourselves, I'll get up and dress," he grinned, lighting the stub. "I'm reporting for coffee, hot and black, right after that."

Daggett was now making himself understood. Something was wrong out back, it appeared; something he'd discovered with the aid of Makin's. He'd heard the dog raising no end of a rumpus in the compound at dawn, but he'd thought nothing of it at the time. Following the affair in Blount's room, Makin's had set up a furious growling and barking in the unused back room adjoining the Quartermaster's—a shed-like place where old chests, tools and the like were stored. Daggett had gone for a look-see, and what he now reported sent the two airmen speeding down the passageway.

In a dim dark corner of the place they saw for themselves. A small figure was huddled there, attired in Japanese jungle kit of solid green, designed to be almost invisible amid the rank, green, tropic growth. He was doubled up in a grotesque attitude, head down, knees drawn chinward, as if muttering praises to the Son of Heaven. But the features showed that agony, not reverence, accounted for that twisted posture. It was more than pain that ailed this son of Nippon, however, it was death itself.

"Snake-bite," muttered Beaumont, noting the terribly swollen, discolored flesh, and the way one trouser leg was rolled up to the knee.

"Our lady of the water jar—or her mate," said Blount. "Must have come upon her in some dark corner. Better search him. Maybe we can tell whether he did what he was sent to do—or was stopped in time."

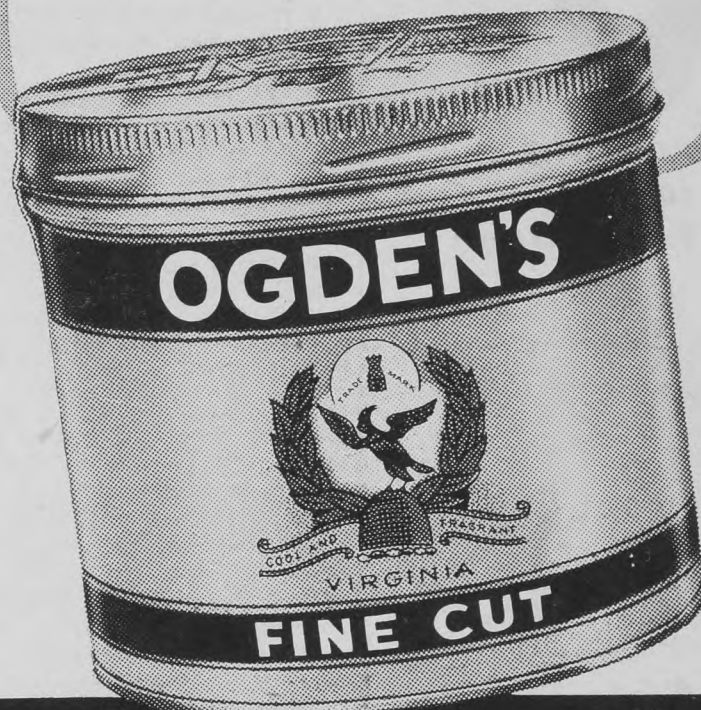
They dragged the body into the open. Inside the green suit were sewn two heavy cloth sacks filled with a fine blackish powder.

"Emery dust and ground glass," said Beaumont. "He was out to get our plane. These sacks haven't been opened, still we'd better play safe and flush out the plane motors and drain the gas before using her again. Afterward, we'll purge every inch of the premises for any other baby monsters that might be about."

"The rains bring out some queer people," chuckled Blount. "You know, I can believe those tales the natives tell now—about cobras discriminating between friendly and enemy humans. Anyhow, from now on, *pax* is the password between me and these puff-worms."

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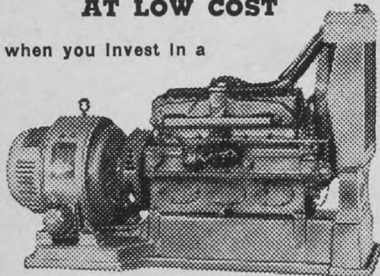
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Portrait of a Family

The Royal Visit brings to mind the vicissitudes through which the Kingship has passed, and its present strong position

by CHRISTOPHER YOUNG

THE world-wide concern over the King's illness and Canada's enthusiastic welcome to Princess Elizabeth have brought into sharp focus the present strength of Britain's monarchy.

Not for years, perhaps for centuries, has the monarchy been so thoroughly woven into the fabric of British society. And by a unique process of adaptation, millions of people around the world have accepted it likewise as their own.

That this should be so in an age remarkable for its equalitarian impulse is a tremendous tribute to the individuals who have shaped the monarchy to its present purpose.

In acclaiming the woman who will one day be their Queen, Canadians are also paying tribute to the forebears who have made her role possible.

The man who was chiefly responsible for creating the British monarchy in its present form was, oddly enough, neither a Briton nor a king. He was Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, A German who in 1840 married the 21-year-old Queen Victoria.

Most students of affairs who had seen the young girl succeed to the throne three years before expected a short reign which would mark the end of monarchy in England. The House of Brunswick had produced successively a madman, in George III, a vulgar clown, in George IV, and a nonentity, in William IV. A reform and economy-minded nation would not allow an extravagant and debauched court to escape forever.

Victoria, though she did not share the vices of her uncles, made a bad start. She was wilful and violently partisan in politics; for many years she was an unpopular sovereign.

But Prince Albert was a man of wide knowledge and understanding. More important still, his was a creative mind. He was chiefly responsible for the Great Exhibition, the centenary of which was marked by this year's Festival of Britain.

Prince Albert fashioned the new monarchy out of two strong materials—hard work and a rigid moral code. Victoria was as clay to the potter. She had the moral code—indeed has given her name to it. And she had a vast capacity for painstaking work. Dutifully, she bore nine children; dutifully, she studied the affairs of state. Her weaknesses the Prince Consort was able to mask.

"I object to Lord Palmerston on personal grounds," the Queen once said.

"The Queen means," said Prince Albert, "that she does not object to Lord Palmerston on account of his person."

The marriage of Victoria and Albert, which had been arranged on a political basis, developed into one of history's most genuine love stories. But in 1861, at 42, Prince Albert died. Victoria was the same age and still had half her life before her. As her reign wound on across the century, she gradually became the personification of middle-class England. At the same time, paradoxically, Disraeli's magic wand transformed the shy, industrious

little Queen into the glittering symbol of a vast new Empire.

But behind the scenes, Victoria was undoing some of her husband's great work. Her grief for him sent her into 20 years of mourning, which lost her to the people. Once again, statesmen and scholars began to fear for future royalty. Victoria made no public contribution to her country's pageant during these years, and although she still worked hard at the dispatch boxes, her youthful wilfulness returned and she became a violent Tory partisan.

Disraeli was able to turn his favorite's position to advantage. Eventually he drew the old Queen out of retirement, crowned her Empress of India and set the stage for the final glories of her reign. By the time of the magnificent Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 1897, the Queen was a legend. Her reign stretched back across the years beyond the span of memory. By her husband's precept and the luck of a long life, she had saved the British Crown.

King Edward VII, the perennial Prince of Wales, was an old man when he came to the throne. He outlived his mother by only nine years, years which appear in the story of the monarchy merely as a gaudy post-mortem on the Victorian Age.

BUT King George V faced a very different chapter. Four years after his accession, a great war, the first in a century, burst upon the world. After that, there was unemployment, a bitter general strike and a wracking series of financial convulsions.

"No reign," the London Times wrote at his death, "has ever been fuller of national suffering, triumph and disappointment."

Through that frightening cavalcade, King George walked with an honest and dogged confidence that won him a very deep affection. A Cockney father, showing his son a portrait of King George at the time of his Silver Jubilee in 1935, described him thus: "That's the King, and if I ever hear you say a word against him I'll knock your bloody block off."

In his personal life King George V was what had come to be called a Victorian. In his public achievement, he was an Albertian. Stripped of its political power, the Crown's influence reached new heights.

The 11-month reign of Edward VIII was an episode without historic

importance, but despite the anticlimax of his life, Edward made a real contribution.

A very different man from his father, the Prince of Wales was restless and fun-loving. He turned his natural inclinations to the service of his people. Year after year he roamed the world and came to know the far-flung Empire as no other sovereign and very few other Britons have known it. More important, he became known to his scattered peoples and affectionately accepted by them. During the wanderings of his twenties and thirties, Edward undoubtedly strengthened the bonds which his family had forged across the world.

IT remained for Edward's younger brother, the shy and unassuming Duke of York, to win the greatest personal victory and set a new standard of royal obligation. The story of how King George VI conquered his personal reticence, which betrayed him in a nervous stammer, and of how he won the admiration of his people by standing with them through the dangerous days of the London blitz is known to everyone.

The story of his own special contribution to the Crown's lustre—the absolute subordination of personal considerations to public obligation—has been grimly dramatized by a critical illness inflamed by overwork.

Long before he became a king or expected to be one, the Duke of York said:

"Nobody can lead unless he has the gift of vision and the desire in his soul to leave things in the world a little better than he found them. He will strive for something which may appear unattainable, but which he believes in his heart can one day be reached; if not by him, by his successors, if he can help to pave the way."

For Elizabeth, King George has paved the way. Nothing could prove the power of his example more forcibly than the fact that she has left her father's bedside in order to keep a promise, from which her expectant hosts offered to release her.

Travelling with her is a future Prince Consort who, like Elizabeth, is a great-great-grandchild of Victoria and Albert. Philip too has chosen the burden of public obligation over the "infinite heart's ease" which Henry V wished for the night before Agincourt.

The spirit of Prince Albert is gloriously alive in England and in Canada today.

2,4-D and Annual Weeds

Many factors have a bearing on the effectiveness of herbicides. Winter months can profitably be spent preparing to do a good job in spring

SINCE 1945 a great many experiments have been conducted in western Canada with 2,4-D and other chemical weed killers. Weed specialists are now in a much better position to advise farmers as to the use of these chemicals than when 2,4-D first came on the market and was tested after the war. The number of different chemicals has increased substantially, but the Third Western Canadian Weed Control Conference was

told at Edmonton last year that "of all the herbicides used at the present time, 2,4-D has proven to be outstanding, when cost of effectiveness and ease of application were considered."

In 1949, five Saskatchewan experimental stations conducted trials with 2,4-D, and as a result of these and other tests it seems to be clear that a number of factors enter into the extent of kill which can be expected with annual weeds.

The most important of these factors are the kind of weed, stage of growth and treatment, soil and climatic conditions, its chemical or commercial strength or content, and the dosage or rate of application.

Weeds themselves vary greatly in their susceptibility to 2,4-D. It was found, for example, that wild mustard may be sensitive to as little as two ounces of 2,4-D acid per acre until after the flowering season, while such weeds as wild buckwheat, pepper grass and wild oats are almost immune. In between lie other weeds such as stinkweed, tumbling mustard, lamb's quarters, flaxweed, Russian thistle and redroot pigweed.

It is apparent, though, that the annuals are nearly all much more susceptible when the plants are young than as they grow older, and that different weeds acquire different degrees of tolerance to 2,4-D. Some acquire this tolerance at different times than others.

Warm, sunny weather together with ample moisture, encourages rapid succulent growth. This means easier killing of weeds with 2,4-D. At Indian Head, under good growing conditions, Russian thistle was killed in the seedling stage with as little as two ounces per acre of ester, while at Swift Current and Saskatoon where conditions were less favorable, four ounces of ester were needed per acre. Again at Scott and Aberdeen, where severe

drought was experienced, comparable kills were only secured with five to eight ounces of ester.

The amount of increased yield secured after chemical weed killing depended largely on the severity of the weed infestation and treatment at the proper time. This variable behavior, based on soil and weather conditions and the varying response between weeds, indicates the importance of seeking the very best advice obtainable before applying chemicals. If applied at the wrong time the weeds may not be satisfactorily killed and the yield of the crop may be unnecessarily decreased.

Countrywoman

Continued from page 73

A PROVINCIAL director of donor enlistment service, Douglas W. Stewart, makes contacts with community groups that will assist in organizing a clinic at any given center. This may be a Junior Chamber of Commerce, a Kiwanis or Kinsmen club, a Legion branch or some women's group such as the Women's Institute. They first look about for a suitable building, one large enough to accommodate 20 cots. This usually turns out to be a church basement, legion hall, schoolroom, curling rink or some other large room. Provision is made for a registration desk and reception center, where donors may wait their turn; space for

about half the cots on which the donors may recline while giving the blood; a rest center for another ten beds and a place where refreshments may be served. The community supplies the building, light and water. The central depot assists with publicity, pamphlets, posters and press notices. Three motor vehicles convey the cots, all equipment needed, a doctor, two nurses, technicians and drivers.

The organizing group sets out to list the names of possible donors. At least 150 names are aimed at—200 would be considered good and 500 excellent. Much depends upon the enthusiasm and efficiency of the organizing group. Brandon made a house-to-house canvass. The village of Steinbach had over 300 and sent out cars for those who might not be able to get into town on that day. Arborg, a town of 500, in the middle of seeding time on the farms around, had 305 donors, some of them coming as far as 20 miles.

Local women volunteers assist in the clinic, helping with registration, acting as receptionists and keeping the line of donors moving along smoothly. They may serve soft drinks to those who are waiting their turn and help with the serving of refreshments after the donor has rested for the required ten minutes. The clinic day may be quite a social occasion, with much friendly visiting and gentle kidding. It is in the Red Cross tradition of volunteer effort in a worthy cause.

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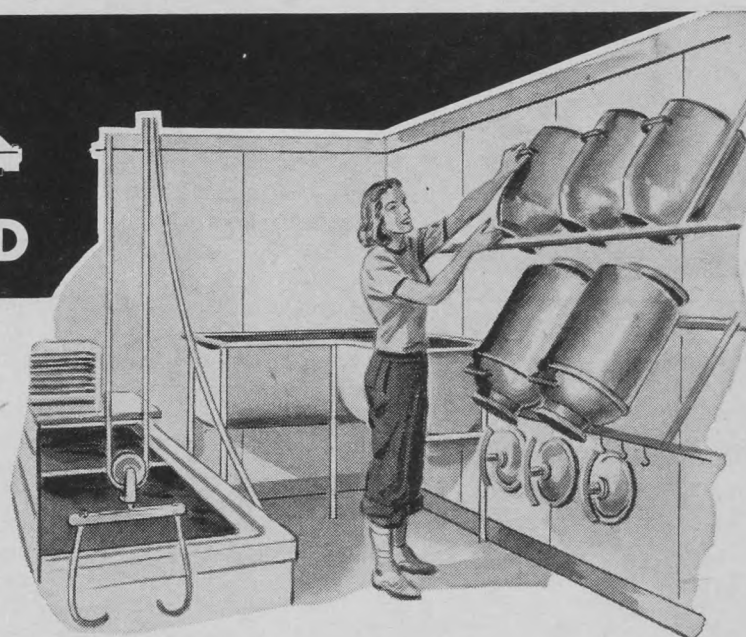
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History Under the Hammer

Christies' auction rooms, a famous British institution, sell goods for prices ranging from a few guineas to thousands of pounds

by EGON LARSEN

THIRTY solemn-looking gentlemen sitting around a horseshoe-shaped table are examining, one by one, a snuff-box passed round by a uniformed man-servant on a tray. Behind them, an inquisitive crowd pushes up to get a glimpse of the little object.

"Fifty-two . . . five . . . eight . . . sixty," calls a distinguished-looking character behind an elevated little desk. His eyes are constantly on the move, scanning the row of people at the table, and the faces of those standing behind them.

This is what the scene looks like day after day at Christies, the world's most famous auction rooms, and as much one of Britain's national institutions as Lloyds or the British Museum. For nearly two hundred years, the world's art treasures have been passing through Christies' hands: thousands of old and modern paintings, books and manuscripts, porcelain and furniture, coins and jewels, *objets d'art* of all kinds and ages. Sometimes the hammer falls at a mere two or three guineas, sometimes at many thousands of pounds. Once, in 1928, a single day's takings amounted to £650,000. A silver salt cellar once fetched £10,000, a cut-glass vase £22,000, a small picture by Romney over £60,000, and a collection of snuff-boxes £185,000.

The beginnings of the house of Christies, however, were much more modest. Mr. James Christie held his first sale one day in December, 1766. A breakfast set went for 19 shillings, a "Holbein" for £5 and a "Titian" for two guineas.

But young Mr. Christie did not restrict himself to works of art. According to an old ledger, "seven geese, three ganders, a cow and a calf" were auctioned in those days. Business was good, and two years later Christie moved into his own house which he had especially built for himself in fashionable Pall Mall of London. It soon became the rendezvous of wealthy art-lovers, and great men vied with one another for the honor of having their portraits exhibited at Christies, to be admired by the connoisseurs.

Thefts no less mysterious than that of the Mona Lisa occurred at Christies in the last century, such as the disappearance of Gainsborough's portrait of the lovely Duchess of Devonshire in 1876, after it had been sold by auction. It only reappeared 34 years later.

The collector's favorite dream, the discovery of an unknown masterpiece, has come true several times at Christies. Sir Alec Martin, the managing director who handles the auctioneer's hammer himself on great occasions, told me some of the most amazing stories of his long career—he joined the firm 50 years ago as a boy of 12 from a London tenement. One day, he recalls, a little dealer came with two pictures which, he hoped, would realize £10. Sir Alec recognized them as the works of Gilbert Stuart, the American who painted George Washington's famous portrait. The two pictures fetched £2,400.

Another time, a small hunting picture by Ben Marshall was put up for sale at a second-rate auction room in Bournemouth; together with 15 other pictures it was knocked down for less than £20 the lot. Its buyer brought it to Christies, where it was sold for 2,800 guineas. And it is not so long ago since a collector bought a drawing for a few shillings in a junk shop in London's East End. It turned out to be Rowlandson's original picture of Vauxhall Gardens, which the experts had given up as lost; it fetched over £2,700. But the classical example of a find was a picture brought in by an old lady who said she would not like to sell it for less than £200. It was auctioned for £16,000, for the picture was a Rembrandt.

SIR ALEC has known many "fashions" in art and taste, for Christies' auction rooms are an infallible barometer of the changing pattern of cultural and social life. Before 1914, British private collectors were eager buyers of animal and pastoral pictures, the bigger the better; they would not pay so much for a picture with four sheep as for one with five. Meanwhile, Continental and overseas collectors bought up the old masters which had been accumulated in British homes and galleries in the 18th and 19th centuries.

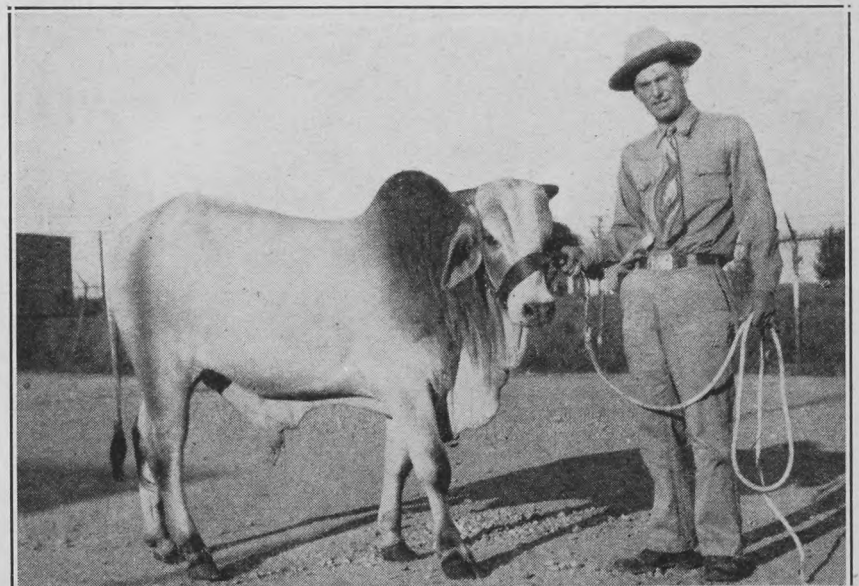
Then, after the first World War, the mass migration of art treasures took another direction. The Americans entered the market, and began to buy up English and Continental paintings, books and art treasures at enormous prices—until the crash of 1929 curbed them. Today not only North America, but also South America and Sweden are in the market as buyers; but, much as Britain needs hard currency, every effort is made to keep national art treasures at home. The British Museum must be given a chance to buy any valuable book or manuscript before it is sold abroad, and Sir Alec himself is a member of the National Art Collections Fund committee, which finances the purchase of art treasures by museums where necessary—such as that of a Henry VIII

English silver gilt chalice, which was in danger of going overseas.

People who don't look at all like connoisseurs suddenly appear at Christies' sales, and bid for rare snuff-boxes or plate. They want to save their children from part of the death duties; they want to leave them articles of "certified historic and artistic value," which are exempt from taxation, instead of taxable securities. They know that it's a gamble; for there are great ups and downs in the value of such objects. For instance, a copy of the first edition of "Jane Eyre" fetched £86 in 1927, £670 only two years later, and £92 in 1936; for no apparent reason, the interest and taste changes to a very considerable degree from one year to the next. There was no obvious cause, for instance, why a Constable picture of Stratford Mill, worth a few hundred pounds before the turn of the century, should have been bought for no less than £43,000 at one of Christies' later auctions.

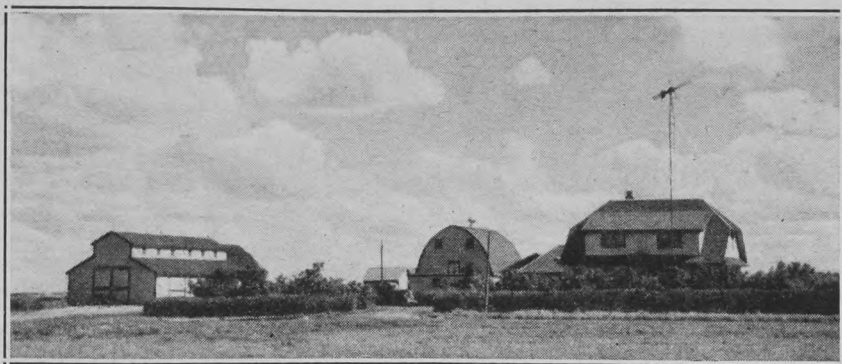
Every day, people send their possessions, often unsolicited, to be sold at Christies, among them skeletons, Victorian sherry, Egyptian mummies, stuffed crocodiles, instruments of torture, dolls, to mention only a few oddities. These people often refuse stubbornly to take their property back when they are told that it cannot be sold. Christies had a whole warehouse full of such things which nobody wanted. One of Hitler's bombs, however, solved the problem by blowing up the warehouse. And in 1941, Christies' beautiful old building in Pall Mall was destroyed by incendiary bombs, together with many of its treasures and historical documents.

Sir Alec told me of the two oddest things he has been offered in all these years. One was "a genuine letter from God," and the other "the wishbone of the cock that crew when St. Peter denied Christ." It is still among the unclaimed objects as the owner cannot be traced. "And we can't auction it because its authenticity would be a little difficult to prove," added Sir Alec. "So we have kept it as a curiosity."



[Guide photo]

This Brahma was imported from the United States by Walter Tuer, Rorketon, Manitoba (above). He bought two females, and two bulls, proposes to cross the bulls with his Shorthorn heifers. He will breed Brahma heifers to Brahma bulls and build up a small purebred herd. These animals are reported to be the first Brahmas brought into Manitoba for breeding purposes.



A view of the attractive Lewis yard at Gray, Sask.

[Guide photos]

Professor in Overalls

Teaching engineering at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, is standard practice for Hal Lewis, power farmer at Gray, Sask.

HAL LEWIS has always liked farming. When he was a young fellow he inclined toward the idea of becoming a farmer as his father had done. However, he liked teaching too, and he appreciated the challenge of having to study a subject in such detail that he could convey detailed information to other people.

He knew something about both subjects. He had been on the family farm at Gray, Saskatchewan, southwest of Regina, since he was a boy. Also he worked as a student instructor in agricultural engineering for part of the period from 1922 to 1926, while he was working for a degree from the University of Saskatchewan.

He decided to farm, and in 1928 bought a section and a quarter of rich, flat, fertile Regina heavy clay, in the home district. In 1939 he rented another section. A couple of years ago his son Ron bought a half section, and now the two and one-quarter sections are worked as one large unit.

However, he also decided to teach. Wheat farming on the Regina plains is pretty well a summer job. Lewis's winters are spent at the University of Saskatchewan, and every engineer and every student in either school or college of agriculture comes under his tutelage at some point in their courses.

It was in 1937 that he made the return to teaching. He taught in short courses operated under the Dominion-Provincial Youth Training scheme for two years and then went to the University as a laboratory instructor in engineering. For the last three or four years he has been a lecturer. He is mostly professor but partly farmer from the beginning of October to the end of April every year; the rest of the time he is mostly farmer but partly professor.

Farming in the summer helps him to keep his feet on the ground, so that his teaching is practical. Teaching in the winter keeps him up to date on new developments in agriculture.

The farm shows concrete evidence of his engineering skill. He put up all of the buildings shown in the picture above, with the exception of the house, and he wired the house and put in running water and a septic tank. The picture does not show most of the buildings that go into making up the 54,000-bushel storage capacity on the farm.

As would be expected, the machinery is kept in tip-top shape. There is a considerable amount of it to service. It includes three tractors—two gas, and a big diesel to do the really heavy work—two combines, two swathers,

two diskers, a couple of trucks, and many smaller machines.

Lewis is particularly well qualified to service diskers. He designed one of those in common use in the West. And there is something of a story in that fact, too.

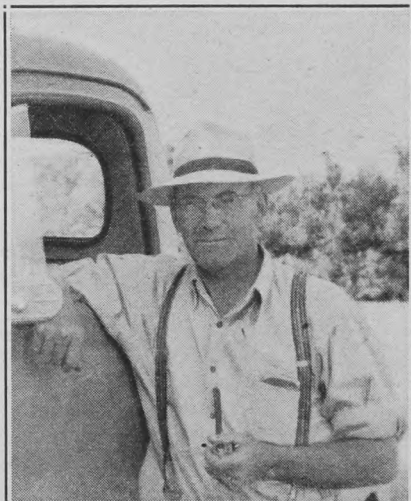
It appears that the idea of a disker first occurred to R. A. Johnson, Beadle, Sask., a few miles east of Kindersley. This was in the late war years. Johnson discussed the idea with Lewis at the University of Saskatoon, and between them they ironed out a few wrinkles that individually they might have missed. That winter Johnson built a disker on his farm. Several others were built throughout the province.

C.C.I.L. then asked Lewis to design one for them, which he did. He built it on the farm at Gray and shipped it to Winnipeg. He was asked to come to the factory, draw up detailed plans and oversee the production of the first few machines. He did so, and the disker was launched. The name—diskers—was Lewis's brain child.

The Lewises have been in Saskatchewan for a considerable number of years. Hal Lewis's father was a chartered accountant in Ontario. He came out West in 1900 "to have a look around." He took a very long look.

He taught school for three years, and for a year he operated an implement business in Indian Head. He filed on a homestead at Gray in 1904. The senior Mrs. Lewis was raised at Wolseley, Sask. She and her people were there at the time of the Riel Rebellion in 1885.

When the senior Lewis decided to settle at Gray he set an example that was followed by his four sons. For half a century there have been Lewises at Gray. With Hal's son settling in the district a third generation is voting the old man's judgment sound.—R.H.



Hal Lewis, farmer and teacher.



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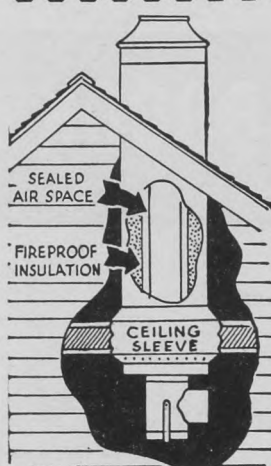


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WINNIPEG CANADA

You, Too, Can Break a Record

If you want to break a record you probably can

by H. DAY

THERE are some who hanker after publicity, who feel that ere they die they must do something by which posterity will remember them. It doesn't matter whether they're famous or notorious, so long as they leave a mark on a chapter in history.

If you can't become Prime Minister, compose a symphony that will rank with the classics, or write a play that will be banned by the churches, you can still be certain that men will remember you if you break some crazy record, such as pushing a peanut up the side of a mountain with your nose, squatting on a pole for endless hours, or as William Kemp did in 1599, dancing a jig from London to Norwich—129 miles—in nine days.

All you want to do is to think of some feat that you excel at, spend months or years perfecting it, and then announce that you will break the world's record by doing it an infinite number of times.

In case you wish to emulate them, it will be just as well to enumerate some of the curious records that have in the past been shattered. Perhaps you think you have the loudest voice in the world and would like to prove it. Before setting out to break the record, just find out what others can do. Is your voice louder than that of Mr. Fred Cox, town crier of Burnham-on-Sea in England? His cries can be heard seven miles away. Or Mr. Fred Welsh, another town crier? His shouts cause rain to fall 12 miles away!

Perhaps you've a tremendous appetite and think you have a fair chance of breaking an eating record. If so, go easy, for there are some doughty trenchermen waiting to accept any challenge laid down by you. Recently a professional glass and tin-tack eater swallowed 157 live goldfish and took the championship from a man in New York. John Patrick of Chicago University ate two gramophone records; Hubert Fraker of Oklahoma ate the college football (deflated); John Goff of Arkansas ate a 13-inch snake; and Ameer Ali, from Pakistan, devoured 2,000 hard boiled eggs in a week. He can eat 100 at almost any time without undue exertion.

Perhaps you're an expert at walking on your hands. Well, do be careful, for quite a number of people can do that, too. In fact, before the war an Austrian mechanic completed the journey from Graz to Vienna—150 miles—to draw attention to the fact that he was unemployed. He made quite a packet in the process and established a record. If you can climb a flight of stairs on your hands, there is a man in Japan named Keyo Namba, who can go one better. He ascends a short flight entirely on his head. His neck is so thick and strong that he flips himself from step to step!

There is no end to the kinds of records you can break, and not all of them useless. Perhaps you're a craftsman who rather fancies himself at his job. Good. There's endless scope for your type of record. If you're a good barber and think you can shave better than anyone else, try to break the record of R. Hardie of London, who in 1890 shaved 12 men in four minutes; then to prove that he had a

steady hand, shaved a further two customers with his *eyes blindfolded*, in two minutes and ten seconds!

A few years ago an Australian thought he would crack a record, so he rose one morning at 6:30 and got busy with his sheep-clipping shears. By eight he had sheared six sheep and taken off enough wool to make a suit of clothes. He then spun it into yarn and wove the yarn into cloth, and by ten it was in the hands of a tailor. At 12:58 he sat down to lunch in the wool he had taken from the back of six sheep soon after breakfast.

In the old days before welding became the vogue, British and American workers used to set up rivetting records. In 1918 Charles Stock of Baltimore drove 2,720 rivets in nine hours, but a few days later Robert Farrant of Bromley-by-Bow beat this with 4,276 rivets. The same month Tom Moore of California drove 5,629, but in two days William Moses captured the record for Britain with 5,894. The ding-dong contest continued, till today the record stands at something like 12,000 rivets in nine hours. Can you do better? There's money in it, too.

If you don't feel equal to such strenuous contests but still want a record, you can do as S. G. Owen of Birmingham, Alabama, did. He slept in a different state each night for seven successive years. Nor were the police after him. Charles Repp wore the same suit of clothes for 35 years, without having it cleaned or pressed. If you can stand yourself that long in filthy clothes, you're welcome.

George Root ate 35,000 meals from the same plate in 35 years, H. B. van Cleave used the same shaving brush for 47 years, E. W. Estes wore the same rubber thigh boots for 40 years, and Robert Whyte of Newcastle wore the same collar stud for 30 years. Eventually tragedy entered his life, and the long-service stud wore out and fell to pieces.

THESE records get the names of men into print, but they're really nothing to boast about. They point to a certain parsimoniousness on the part of the wearer or user.

They don't give one the intense thrill of battling with a giant octopus with 17-foot tentacles, as E. K. Mad-den, a Californian used to do for the delectation of spectators—and for a sizable fee; or cooking an omelette on a tightrope stretched above a lions' den, which was the special feat of Bertha Matlock in 1929. The lions below snarled ferociously and sprang savagely into the air, but apparently she had no nerves.

Or one can go in for records of repetition. Tom Green gained fame by punching a bag for 72 hours at the rate of 45 punches a minute; Hassan Ben Omar, a Moorish acrobat, performed 322 successive somersaults; Martin Dobrilla swung clubs for 144 hours in 1913; Miss Adrienne Flauris, a ballet dancer, stood on her toes for 14 hours in 1930; and Silvian Dornan, a French chef walked on seven-foot stilts from Paris to Moscow in 58 days.

There is an immense field open to you. Take your choice and achieve a record.

The Country Boy and Girl



LONG ago it was believed unsafe to venture out on Hallowe'en, for witches and mischievous spirits were supposed to be out that night. Now we wouldn't miss the jolly spooks, witches and, best of all, Hallowe'en parties! You and your friends will have lots of fun playing the game of Suitcase Surprise Race. Take two suitcases or bags and fill each one with a set of clothes—hats, dresses, coats, gloves, belts, scarves, even shoes. Use large, old-fashioned clothes of many different colors. Place the suitcases at the far end of the room, and at a signal let two people run to the suitcases and begin to pull on the clothes, warning them that they must put on EVERYTHING that is in the suitcase. The one who reaches the starting point first after dressing is the winner.

Ann Sankey

My Pumpkin

In my garden,
Round and yellow,
There is such
A jolly fellow
Hiding under
His leaves of green,
The biggest vegetable
Ever you've seen.

And when October
Rolls around,
I'll take my pumpkin
From the ground,
I'll make a Jack-O
Lantern bright
To carry around
On Hallowe'en night!

—AUDREY MCKIM.

The Sparrow and I

by Mary Grannan

ONE day I was sitting by my window, and just outside, in a maple tree, sat a little sparrow. He cocked his head and looked at me with one beady eye. I cocked my head and looked right back at him. I laughed and when I did, he frowned.

"Oh, come now little sparrow," I said. "Don't look at me like that. I wasn't laughing at you. I was trying to be friendly."

He hopped to the window sill. I tossed him a bit of my toast. I was eating my breakfast at the time. He tasted the toast, and he seemed to like it. He ate every crumb, and then said, "Thank you."

I almost fell from my chair in astonishment. I said, "You spoke to me. I didn't know that you could talk."

"There are a great many things that you do not know about sparrows," he said.

I laughed, and said to the saucy fellow, "What is there to know about a sparrow? You sit on trees, and sing your songs. Is there anything else to know?"

The sparrow shook his head as if he were very sorry for me. Then his eyes brightened, and hopping from the sill to the table at which I sat, he said seriously, "Would you like to spend the day with me? Would you like to know just what a sparrow does in a day?"

Of course I said that I would like to spend a day with the little fellow. I told him that I was afraid it would be impossible. "You see, sparrow, you fly about. I could never keep up with you."

"Oh, I can fix that," he answered, hopping to my plate to finish the

bread crumbs. "I shall sprinkle you with my sparrow-magic. Then you will be invisible. You do know what invisible means, I suppose?"

"Of course I do," I answered, a bit indignantly. "It means that I cannot be seen by anyone."

"Exactly," said sparrow. "You cannot be seen, and so in that way, no one will know you are with me. Well, do you want my sparrow-magic?"

I said I did. And with a flick of his wings and with a few of the strangest sparrow chirps that I ever heard, I felt myself shrivel up, and then I felt as light as a feather. I had wings! I flew to the mirror on the wall, and I looked into it, and saw nothing at all. I was invisible.

"Come on," said sparrow. "Don't let us waste time. I have many things to do. Is there anything that you would like to do?"

"Yes," I said. "I've always wondered what it felt like to sit on a telephone wire. May we do that?"

So we flew out the window together. I followed him to a busy street, and high above the traffic, we sat on the shining wires. The people on the streets below looked very funny, hurrying here and there. A big grey bus rounded the corner. "Come on," said sparrow. "Let's ride downtown, on the bus."

"But we have no tickets," I said.

"Who ever heard of a sparrow buying a bus ticket?" he laughed and straightway flew from the wire to the top of the bus. I followed him. And away we went. I was surprised that I didn't fall from my perch. After riding a few miles, he spread his wings.

"Come on," he said, "I have a friend across that field, in the house by the river." I followed. We went to the window sill of the little old stone house. The sparrow chirped merrily and then I heard happy laughter. I looked in and I saw a little boy, sitting on a wheel chair. But the little boy did not see me. He spoke to the bird.

"Hello, Mr. Sparrow. You're late today. I've been waiting for you for hours and hours. What kept you?"

"Oh" said sparrow, flicking his wings, "I met up with someone who thought I did nothing all day, but sit on a treetop and sing."

"How silly," said the little boy. "Did you tell the someone that you came to see me everyday; that you made me laugh; that I saved my crumbs for you; that you sang songs for me . . . very special songs, and about how someday I would have wings too and would fly with you?"

The sparrow nodded his head. "She knows about you. And what shall I sing about today?"

"Oh, let me see! Sing about the little brown dog that runs on the highway." And sparrow sang:

*There is a funny little dog
His coat is shining brown.
He hops along the highway
He's going into town.
He goes to do his shopping.
He'll buy a juicy bone
He'll bury it beneath a tree
And then he'll run back home.*

The little boy in the wheel chair howled with laughter. He learned the words of the song from the sparrow, and then we flew away. We visited many people that day, and the sparrow made every one of them happy. We went for a ride on the ferry boat. We sat right out on the boat's bow, and we paid no fare. Then we heard music.

"It's a circus parade," I said.

"Yes," said the sparrow. "Would you like to ride on the elephant?"

I gasped in delight at the thought, and off we flew and perched on the elephant's head. The children cried out, "Look, look at the sparrow. He's riding the elephant." They didn't see me.

I had a most exciting day with sparrow. At sunset, he brought me home again. He wished the sparrow-magic from me, and flew away.

I've never seen sparrow since that day. I wish he would come back again, and cover me with magic. I think of him often, and of all the happiness he spreads over the world in a day. If you should ever see him, will you please tell him that I'm thinking of him?

Birds of the Prairies

"KILL-DEE! kill-dee! kill-dee!" Over and over again you hear the call as the bird darts here and there over your head. What's this? Why the killdeer is at your feet now, it seems to have a broken wing, it's rolling over, gasping and panting! You reach down to pick it up but it awkwardly flutters out of your reach. A killdeer plays such a trick, pretending to be hurt to lead you away from her nest.

Back you turn and after crossing and recrossing the ground you find her four pear-shaped eggs laid in a little dent in the ground, so much the color of the ground that you had trouble in finding them. They are laid with the small ends to the center like a four-leaf clover, which makes it possible for the small killdeer to cover all her large eggs. Her young birds will be

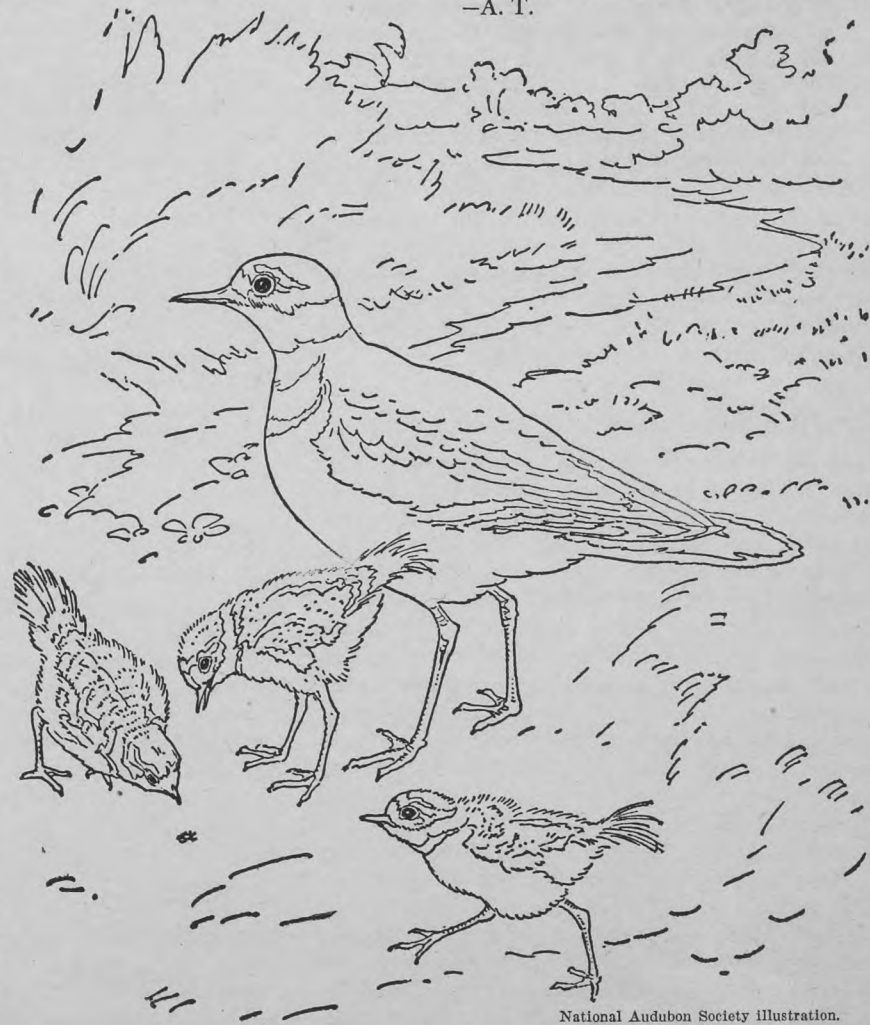
very strong and able to find their own food a few hours after they are born. Notice that the young



birds have only one black ring across the breast.

Directions for coloring the killdeer: narrow black bar extending from eye over top of bill to other eye, with white space above it. Crown of head, brownish grey. A white bar around neck, then a broad black chest ring, below this a white space, then a narrow black chest ring. Back and wings are light brown, and lower chest and underparts are white. Bill, brownish black and feet leaden grey. Tail above, bright orange blending to black toward end. White tips on tail feathers.

—A. T.



National Audubon Society illustration.

THE *Country* GUIDE

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THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM and HOME
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VOL. LXX WINNIPEG, OCTOBER, 1951 No. 10

Partial Controls Useless

The public controversy over controls continued indecisively throughout September. The minister of justice, Hon. Stuart Garson, contributed something to it in a bit of plain speaking at Niagara Falls on September 18. Mr. Garson reminded us that the stabilization of prices during the war years was accompanied by heavy taxation, by the freezing of wages, by the direction of manpower, and by forced savings, adding up to a comprehensive control of the national economy by the government.

"Some people," he declared, "now suggest what has the surface appearance of being a painless way of accomplishing the same purpose, namely that prices should be controlled or rolled back." Of course the minister is incontestably right. No single restrictive measure will meet the inflation threat. Price fixing by itself would be as futile as a wage freeze by itself.

The C.C.L. has not apparently learned this truth. At its September sessions in Vancouver it is reported as urging the imposition of price controls and subsidies on consumer necessities, support for a campaign for a new round of wage increases, and certain income tax changes which would have the effect of increasing the net income of its adherents. What a parcel of contrarities!

H. H. Hannam, president of the C.F.A., provided the appropriate answer in an address at Orillia. He gave notice that agriculture is prepared to fight any system of partial controls. Only a blanket measure covering prices, wages, and everything else would be fair. Said Dr. Hannam:

"There is considerable pressure for price controls on food. Since everybody's wages or income, or fee, enters into somebody else's cost of production, or cost of living, or both, that request, if acted upon, would create a hardship on the farm family. It would make the farmer the goat for an inflation era.

"If and when the time comes that the need for price control becomes imperative, then price controls should apply on all prices, wages, and profits. The farmer does not ask for himself to be exempt and others to be controlled; no one in any other industry or profession is justified in asking for controls on others, leaving himself free."

If the exigencies of the situation require that the nation should put an abrupt end to the one period of prosperity that beef producers have had in our time, as some consumer groups advocate, let us in the name of fairness agree also on a roll-back of wages and profits. National emergencies cannot be met at the expense of isolated groups.

American Trade Restrictions

Those who have watched with unconcern, or with positive approval, the gradual reduction of agricultural exports to Great Britain, and the compensating increase of sales to the United States, got a disagreeable surprise last month. The American Congress added a rider to the Defence Production Act which has the effect of imposing import quotas on cheese, processed milk and other dairy products. If this amendment withstands the efforts of the administration to undo it, it will be one more instance of sudden death at the hands of Congress to trade connections which other countries have laboriously built up in order to balance their external trading account. Canada has suffered too much from it in the past to require any elaboration here.

Many people doubtless thought it couldn't happen in these enlightened times. The GATT—the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs—signed at Geneva and ratified by 53 nations was an American conception and successfully consummated by virtue of American persistence. It was designed spe-

cifically to prevent this sort of thing. But events prove that a handful of protectionists can talk the American Congress, which is supreme in such matters, into defeating the administration's soundest plans.

Besides being a flagrant breach of the code which the Americans have been urging on the rest of the world, the restriction is quite indefensible. The American dairy industry is in need of no such protection at the present time, for prices on the restricted products are above parity. Danes, Hollanders and other dollar-hungry Europeans have, with the approval and help of ECA, deliberately rebuilt their American outlet for fancy cheeses which appeal to high-income families, and in no way threaten the production of standard American types. Their postwar comeback has not even reached the prewar volume of trade in the same commodities. Lastly, the surprise restriction came at the moment when the Americans were charging the Czechs with the same breach of faith. Small wonder that there were sharp exchanges at Geneva last month, with threats of reprisals.

The moral of the incident is that Canada must work incessantly for the expansion of trade in all directions. The more agricultural produce this country can sell to the United States the better. But we must not be so blinded by the glitter of dollars as to forget old but temporarily needy customers. Hard traders though some of them may be, they were always predictable.

The Japanese Peace Treaty

The Japanese peace treaty is, in one critical aspect, incomplete because the Russians refused to sign, the Chinese, who were longest at war with the Japs, were not invited, and because India, the biggest stable power unit in the Far East, disagreed with some minor features of the treaty and signed a separate one of her own. But the treaty as signed is probably the best that can be achieved now, and it is important that the work of rebuilding in Asia be no longer delayed. Japan is too great a prize to leave unarmed. Further tutelage forced on this proud nation may alienate whatever good will still exists.

Canada did not play a sufficiently large part in the Asiatic war to give it a deciding voice in framing the terms of peace. The Americans bore the brunt of the fighting and an overwhelming share of the occupation costs. It is natural, therefore, that they should have taken the lead in making the peace. The circumstances which have made Canada a close ally of the United States in this world of power politics slants our diplomacy in the same direction as theirs. Our interests in Japanese relations are almost identical.

The political features of the settlement are as acceptable here as in the U.S. The provision of the treaty which leaves American troops in Japan makes up for the lack of more stringent security features. After the experience of the Versailles treaty the world will agree that the payment of reparations does not tend toward lasting peace. All nations must applaud the generosity of the American settlement in this regard. As to the territorial settlement which restricts Japan to its four home islands, Canada is not concerned.

In the economic field Canadians are bound to look more closely at the treaty terms. There is no desire here to restrict Japan's economic recovery, but there must be no recurrence of Japanese activities detrimental to the economic life of other nations. Japanese governments from 1905 to 1941 were past masters of this kind of economic warfare. Her opium policy on the Asian mainland, her hidden export subsidies, her treatment of the subject of international copyrights, patents and trademarks, and lastly, her persistent poaching in the waters off British Columbia and Alaska are examples. Long protest obtained Japanese signatures to a fisheries agreement in 1938, but Japanese vessels continued to be sighted off the B.C. coast. Japan could never be persuaded to adhere to any of the international conventions aimed at the conservation of salmon and halibut, and her selfish indifference was a severe check on their efficacy.

On this feature of the peace treaty Canada could have expected more. The opportunity to have the

long-standing fisheries dispute settled in the peace treaty has been lost. It will now have to be done with a nation which has recovered its sovereign rights. It is to be hoped that the events between Pearl Harbor and Hiroshima have taught Japan the value of negotiation in good faith, and scrupulous adherence to the spirit of agreements entered into.

War on Alcoholism

Alcoholism has come to be recognized as a serious drag on the productive activities of the Canadian people. In the United States it has become fourth among the nation's public health problems—ahead of T.B. There are estimated to be four million problem drinkers in that country, costing the nation a billion dollars annually in absenteeism, hospitalization, sickness and disability payments, and in the replacement of skilled personnel dismissed at the peak of their productive careers.

Nobody can say what the comparative figures are for Canada because the problem has never received attention till recently in this country. To its credit, the province of Ontario has taken the first step, setting up the Alcoholism Research Foundation in Toronto earlier this year. In its preliminary study the Foundation indicates that the American picture has its counterpart here. Ontario alone is estimated to have 100,000 drinkers living more or less in a constant alcoholic fog. Included in this number are about 25,000 who can fairly be labelled alcoholics. What is more revealing is that 92 per cent of them are to be found among the province's skilled tradesmen, or business or professional men and women. It is not a question of salvaging skid row characters.

The Ontario Foundation has made a sensible beginning on the intractable problem ahead of it. Its officers have made it plain that they are not concerned with ordinary drinking, nor is the Foundation the executive arm of a body of do-gooders. It is solely concerned with the treatment of a disease and the adoption of policies to prevent its spread. Those who choose to continue to tread the path to the everlasting bonfire may do so without let or hindrance from it. The activities of the new body are directed to aid those who sincerely want it.

The Ontario government deserves commendation for the lead it has shown. It is not a question of whether governments can afford to spend public money on such a program. In view of the economic losses alcoholism imposes on the nation, it becomes a question, "can we afford not to?" Quite apart from its moral and social aspects, the war against alcoholism is a conservation undertaking of high importance.

The Cigarette Tax

From this distance it looks as though the organization representing the tobacco farmers of Ontario attempted to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for someone else in their application for a substantial reduction in the cigarette tax, reported elsewhere in this issue.

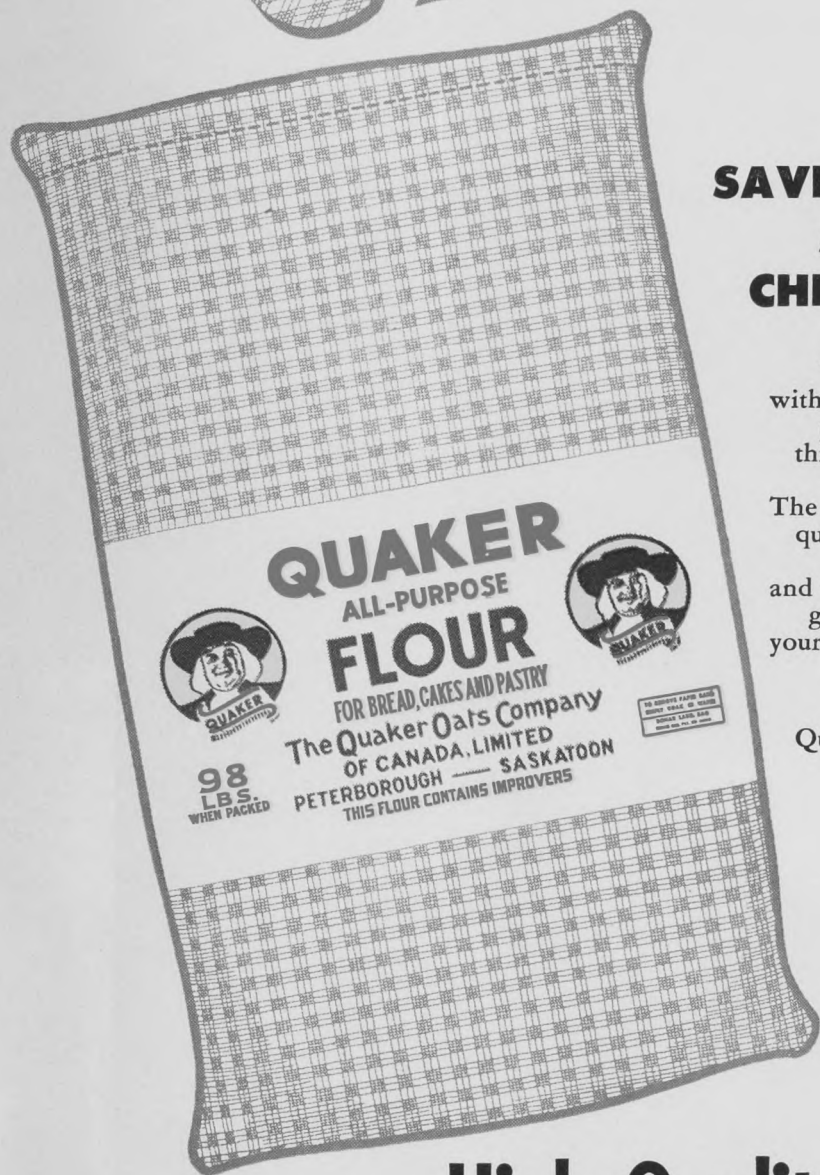
The publicity given to the heavy June decrease in cigarette sales was a little artless. Few people will believe that the incensed fag smokers who stopped smoking, or reduced their consumption when the price went up, will hold to their resolve indefinitely. Smoking is a habit that dies hard, as the minister of finance shrewdly calculated. As for those who switched from tailor-made to the roll-your-own variety, the growers will experience no substantial loss, no matter how seriously it may hit the "coffin nail" manufacturers.

The growers who did the talking for the other elements in the trade, showed their hand too plainly when they asked, not for a cancellation of the tax increase of \$1.50 authorized last April, but for a reduction of \$4.00 on the ground that costs in growing and processing tobacco have risen. This is equivalent to proposing that in order to maintain an outmoded retail price for cigarettes, the government should take less and leave a bigger cut for the trade! Our sympathies go out to the smokers who have to foot the bill, as indeed they do to everyone hit by tax increases, but the facts being what they are we do not see how Mr. Abbott could have answered the appeal in any other way.

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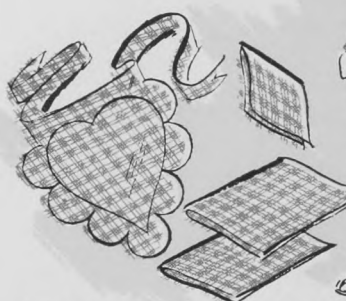
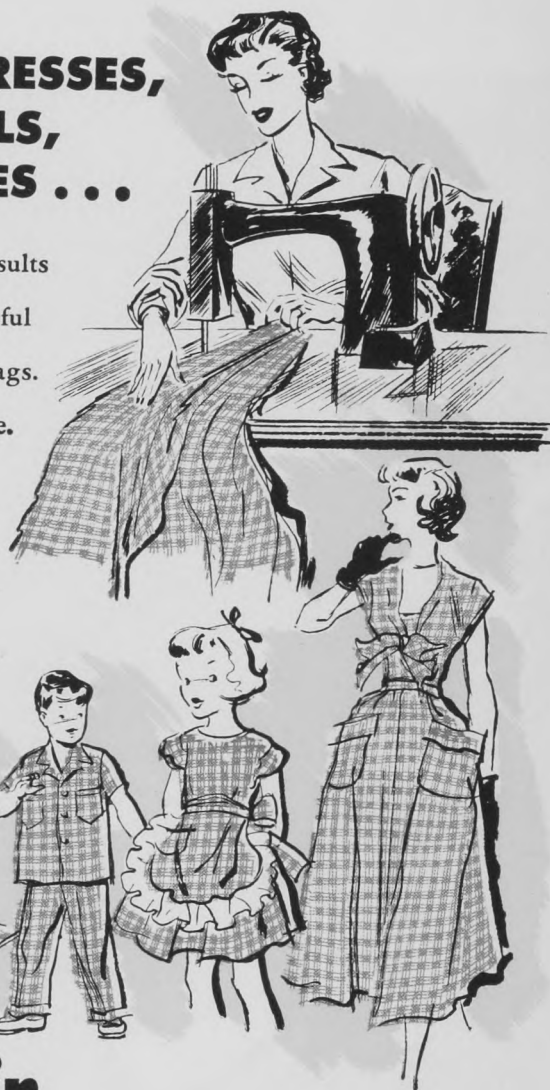
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